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Letter dated 21 July 2010 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward to you the report of the third meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, which was convened in Athens from 2 to 5 November 2009 (see annex).

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/270, I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 22 (a).

(*Signed*) Dimitris **Caramitsos-Tziras**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

10-57775 (E) 091110

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Annex to the letter dated 21 July 2010 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, DECENTRALIZATION AND E-GOVERNANCE

Global Forum on Migration & Development
GFMD ATHENS 2009

GLOBAL FORUM ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT
THIRD MEETING

ATHENS / 2-5 November 2009

Integrating Migration Policies into Development Strategies for the Benefit of All

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

This report has been prepared by the Taskforce set up by the Hellenic Government for the preparation of the Third Meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) in close consultation with the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative for International Migration and Development. This document reflects the discussions held during the Third GFMD Meeting and its related activities, but not necessarily the views of the GFMD organizers or the governments or organizations involved in the Meeting. As the GFMD is an informal, non-binding process, the document also does not involve any commitment from any of the parties to the GFMD discussions. Any reproduction, partial or whole, of this document should cite the source.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Report reflects the discussions and outcomes of the Third Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), organized and hosted by the Hellenic Republic in Athens from 2 to 5 November 2009. It shows, once again, that it is possible for governments to meet in an informal, participative and inclusive international dialogue, now firmly established as the GFMD process.

Such a meeting of minds requires intense preparations and support from a large number of people, ranging from the technician to the politician, from those who organize to those who advise. It includes governments, Civil Society, international institutions, academics and others, who generously offer their support through voluntary contributions, financial, in-kind, intellectual or otherwise. It also includes a large number of invisible hands and minds that labour hard to ensure that the event runs its course as smoothly as possible.

The Athens GFMD has been no exception in this regard. It is not an easy task to organize a meeting on a complex and sensitive issue such as migration and development for more than 900 participants from all parts of the world.

The Greek Chair warmly acknowledges the efforts of the large number of governments, international organizations and other institutions, their officials and representatives, and all the many partners who have contributed to the preparation of the Third GFMD.

A special note of appreciation is extended to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, H.E. Mr Ban Ki-moon, whose strong interest in the GFMD continues to lend it legitimacy as a global process. The untiring support and advice of the Secretary-General's Special Representative for International Migration and Development, Mr Peter Sutherland, has also contributed to the success of the Athens GFMD.

But the GFMD meeting this year would not have been possible without the steersmanship of Ambassador Anastase Scopelitis, who led the GFMD Taskforce in the preparation and management of the event. He was assisted by an able Taskforce of Greek and international advisors, who also coordinated the Roundtable discussions, as well as a competent executive team that accomplished all the organizational aspects of the meeting.

The Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation also deserves special credit for having successfully organized the meeting of the Civil Society.

The use of the word "marathon" may well be appropriate to describe the arduous preparations of the Athens GFMD. But, as the ancient story goes, "we won" - this time on behalf of those whose efforts at improving their life are wholeheartedly endorsed by all the participants and supporters of the GFMD process.

Theodora Tzakri
Deputy Minister of Interior, Decentralization and E-Governance
GFMD 2009 Chair-in-Office

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THIRD MEETING OF THE GFMD

Athens / 2-5 November 2009

INTEGRATING MIGRATION POLICIES INTO DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL

1. SUMMARY

The Third Meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) was hosted by Greece in Athens from 2 to 5 November 2009: the first two days were devoted to the Civil Society Meeting and the next two to the Government Meeting. It had as its overarching theme ***"Integrating Migration Policies into Development Strategies for the Benefit of All"***. The selection of this theme was based both on the diverse Greek experiences of migration and on a growing global awareness of the need to better link migration to development and to make it a force for achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

Like other European countries, Greece has gone through all the stages of the migration cycle. Initially, it witnessed some of its citizens going abroad in search of a better life. When Greeks started integrating into their new societies, Greece became the beneficiary of significant flows of economic and social remittances. After joining the European Union, Greece experienced the return of some of its diaspora. Lately, Greece has been transformed into a host country and, because of its geographical position, into a transit country as well. Many migrants are today using Greece as an entry point to the European Union in their own search for a better life. Through these different experiences, Greece has come to understand the various and complex linkages between migration and development.

The main objectives of the Third GFMD were:

- to create conceptual and structural *links between migration and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals,* which becomes even more critical in times of economic crisis;
- to *strengthen the human development aspects* of the migration and development policy discourses;
- to bring forward some *concrete and workable policy recommendations*, based on the identification of policy gaps and good practices;
- to *consolidate the GFMD process further* through thematic continuity with previous GFMD meetings, strengthening its operational structures and tracking the follow-up of GFMD recommendations and policy impacts at national and international levels.

The Greek Chair's proposal to incorporate migration into development planning is based on the belief that migration should be propelled more by choice than by necessity. Following this line of thinking, national and international development efforts should enlarge human

development by improving the standards of living and expanding life choices. International migration should not be a survival strategy, but, instead, should be based increasingly on choice: the choice to migrate. The freedom to move by choice goes hand in hand with another freedom: the freedom to stay at home. Human development expands both the freedom and choice of staying or moving – temporarily, permanently or repeatedly.

This also relates to an important finding of the UNDP 2009 Human Development Report: that the developmental effects of migration are clearly dependent on the conditions under which people move; migration as "development on the move" depends on the levels of "development on the ground". This is another critical aspect of the dialectic relationship between migration and human development, which further promotes the argument for migration by choice.

In its third year now, the GFMD has proven to be more than just another international meeting on migration and development and is already shaping the debate in important ways. It is building bridges between countries and regions, public and private sectors, migrants and their home and host societies, and among the myriad of actors caught up in the migration and development phenomena. Policies and attitudes are beginning to change in many countries. Governments report new or pending migration policies that give more regard to development aspects. New approaches, mechanisms and procedures exist to identify, communicate and engage with diasporas.

Bilateral and regional agreements are emerging, that promote regular migration, be it circular or permanent, provide for portability of social security benefits, facilitate the transfer of remittances, better protect the rights of regular migrants, combat irregular migration and trafficking etc. Last but not least, some governments are actively promoting policy and institutional coherence in the fields of migration and development, thereby moving from rhetoric to implementation.

During the Greek Chairmanship, some outcomes from earlier GFMD meetings came to fruition and further reinforced the thematic coherence between annual meetings. Two informal *ad hoc* working groups were set up by governments - on protecting and empowering migrants for development, and on policy coherence, data and research. These ensured follow-up on several studies recommended in Brussels and Manila, which enriched the Athens debates on integration and reintegration, particularly in the context of emerging forms of circular migration.

An informal survey taken among participating states evidenced some of the new policy and institutional coherence mentioned above. In Asia, a Meeting of Heads of Regional Consultative Processes on Migration (RCPs) discussed how to enhance exchange of good practices among them; and an assessment of the outputs and impacts of RCPs was presented in Athens.

2009 also saw the successful start-up of a small GFMD Support Unit to backstop the administrative work of the GFMD and its Chair.

In Athens, the Roundtable sessions produced a number of recommendations and possible follow-up actions to better mainstream migration in development planning, for example through more effective data collection tools and methods to achieve coherence between migration and development policies. More research, studies, handbooks, databases and evaluative indicators have been suggested to inform policy-makers on root causes of migration, the roles and needs of diaspora, social protection of migrants abroad, the impact of migrant reintegration on development, gender issues and partnerships to deal with the

impacts of the economic crisis on migration and development. Regional and inter-regional cooperation has been reinforced, particularly in the context of closer relations with the GFMD. And governments have agreed to continue pursuing policy and institutional coherence on migration and development, and research and data to underpin such coherence.[1]

The Third Global Forum on Migration and Development envisioned a world with more freedom and choice in the context of migration and development. It looked at policies that can create conditions conducive to exercising such freedoms and choices. It is our hope that the Athens Meeting has taken us another step towards this goal.

[1] See the Roundtable chapters of this Report; and Annex 1 on Recommendations and Follow-up Actions.

2. THE PREPARATORY PROCESS

Administrative and conceptual preparations for the Athens GFMD were initiated in mid-2008 by the Greek Ministry of Interior, which created a taskforce to this effect. Ambassador Anastase Scopelitis was appointed as Head of this Taskforce, which comprised both national and international experts.[2]

The Greek Government provided the administrative facilities and arrangements for the preparatory process, the Meeting itself and the subsequent wrap-up work by the Taskforce. The financial resources for the Athens Meeting, including its Civil Society component, were provided mostly by the Greek Government; a number of other governments, one international organization and a private foundation also contributed[3].

The Athens GFMD abided by the structural framework and the Operating Modalities set up in Brussels in 2007 and continued to rely on the network of *Focal Points*, the *Friends of the Forum*, the *Steering Group* and the *Troika* for information exchange and consultation with participating Governments and Observers.

The *Steering Group*[4] provided conceptual and political support to the process and the Chair, including on issues related to the GFMD structure and future. The *Friends of the Forum* were consulted on all steps in the preparatory process, including the Roundtable themes and the GFMD agenda. In the course of 2009, three Friends of the Forum meetings were held in Geneva (April, July and September) and four Steering Group meetings were convened there (February, April, July and September). The *Focal Points* network proved to be crucial for smooth communication with governments and organizations concerned. Finally, the *Troika*, comprising past, present and future GFMD Chairs (Philippines, Greece and Mexico), provided valuable strategic guidance to the process, also through lessons learned.

The Greek Chair's overarching theme was dealt with in three Roundtables and seven break-out Roundtable sessions. An additional special session was also planned for Heads of Delegation to discuss the future of the Forum. Roundtable themes were proposed in reflection of the objectives of the overall GFMD theme. These were reviewed by the Friends of the Forum; and the Roundtable session themes were finalized by means of a survey conducted in January 2009 among Steering Group members. It is worth noting that 18 governments, or 60% of the Steering Group at that time, responded to the survey.

On the basis of these responses, as well as discussions in the Troika and Steering Group meetings in February 2009, a Themes Concept Paper was finalized by the Chair and the Taskforce; substantial support and input were given by the Directorate-General of Migration Policy and Social Integration of the Greek Ministry of Interior. The Themes Concept Paper built upon some of the key outcomes of Brussels and Manila, but also brought to the fore new issues (such as the root causes of migration in light of the current economic crisis; and the importance of migrant integration and reintegration for development) and gave renewed emphasis to the inclusion of migration in development planning and the role of migrants in that planning.

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[2] See Annex 7 for the list of the members of the Taskforce.
[3] See Annex 4 for the financial contributions to the Athens GFMD.
[4] The Steering Group comprised Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, The Netherlands, Norway, The Philippines. Portugal, Qatar, Korea, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

As in the past two GFMD meetings, the Roundtable sessions were prepared by teams of governments and international organizations, each co-chaired by two partner governments. They were assisted by three Roundtable coordinators, drawn from the international component of the GFMD Taskforce, in consultation with three coordinators from among its Greek experts, as well as the speakers in Roundtable sessions 2.1, 2.2 and 3.2.. Under the supervision of the Greek Chair, the background papers for the Roundtable sessions were prepared by the co-chairs, the Roundtable coordinators, the Taskforce and international experts. Roundtable team members, Friends of the Forum and international organizations also contributed with their input to the background papers.

Throughout the preparatory process, the Greek Chair consulted closely with Mr Peter Sutherland, the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for International Migration and Development, who embodies the connection of this informal process to the UN. Mr Sutherland contributed greatly to the efficiency of the GFMD through his ongoing advice and support to the process, his participation in all Friends of the Forum meetings and his chairing of the Special Session on the Future of the Forum during the Athens Meeting on 5 November.

The Support Unit also commenced operations during the Greek Chairmanship, albeit somewhat later in the preparatory process, after the Greek Chair had already put its own support structures in place. The Support Unit assisted the Chair in administrative and financial matters during the preparations and the completion of the GFMD. By the time of the Athens Meeting, pledges had been made by governments to ensure the continued operation of the Support Unit in 2010.

The preparatory phase and the conclusions of the Special Session on the Future of the Forum have further consolidated the GFMD as a state-led, informal, practical and participatory process. They also confirmed the role of the existing structures in line with the GFMD Operating Modalities. Governments have indicated the need for forward-looking policy discussions based on broad expert input, and also for tracking the follow-up of the outcomes of the GFMD with a view to better evaluating the impact of the Forum on practices and policies.

Throughout the preparations of the Third GFMD, the Greek Chair continued to pursue the highly interactive and cooperative approach which distinguishes the GFMD from other similar international fora. The Chair's goal was to enhance this participative aspect of the Forum, and the structures and procedures underpinning it, to ensure that Greece passes a strong, resilient process onto the next Chair, Mexico.

3. THE CIVIL SOCIETY MEETING (2-3 NOVEMBER)

The Civil Society Meeting was organized by the **Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation** in tandem with the Government Meeting. It attracted over 300 participants from a wide range of non-state sectors across 100 countries.

Its Organizing Committee, comprising Greek academics and staff from the Onassis Foundation, and headed by the Secretary of the Board of the latter, undertook all organizational and administrative work. Substantive and strategic support was given by the International Advisory Committee, which represented migrant groups, diaspora, development organizations, labour unions, academics and the private sector world-wide. A committee was also set up to select the Greek delegates to represent similar constituencies in Greece. The meeting was chaired by the renowned Greek film director **Mr Costa Gavras**.

At the invitation of the Civil Society organizers, a number of delegates from the Government part participated in the meeting, notably at an interface session per Roundtable on the final day. To facilitate coherence and cross-fertilization of good practices and outcomes between governments and Civil Society, the Roundtable themes mirrored those of the Government Meeting, with an additional Roundtable on "Building Alliances" focused on the role of the business sector as well as on the future of the Forum and Civil Society's expectations and role.

Key outcomes and recommendations were reported by Mr Costa Gavras and three Civil Society representatives[5] in the Opening Plenary Session of the Government Meeting. Many of these were taken into account, implicitly or explicitly, in the Government Roundtable discussions and outcomes. There were specific recommendations for more flexible stay/work permits that allow migrants to change employer and employment sector, as well as to accumulate benefits even when they start their stay in the destination country with a short-term permit. There should be more transparency in visa regimes and the up-front costs of migration should be reduced. Best practices in this domain include flexible demand-driven permits in all labour market sectors (e.g. Sweden) and low-cost loans to migrants and their families to prepare the journey (e.g. Bangladesh).

The detrimental role of sub-contractors in many sectors of the labour market was pointed out by both Civil Society and business actors. It was suggested that governments should monitor more closely the practices of recruiters and other migration agencies. Laws against exploitation, discrimination and xenophobic or racist practices should be enforced on the ground and their results should be monitored.

In pursuing these goals, there should be closer cooperation and consultation within government and with Civil Society as well as employers. Migrants and diaspora should be included in migration and development policy planning.

Maintaining the link between migration and development by acknowledging the contribution of mobility to growth and wellbeing of people (those who move as well as those who stay behind) and countries (sending, receiving and transit) was deemed crucially important, especially in the light of the global economic crisis.

[5] Professor Mohamed El Mehdi Lahlou, Ms. Martina Liebsch and Ms. Doris Peschke.

There was also a clear message to the Copenhagen Conference on Climate Change to place the interests and needs of migrants and potential migrants high on its policy agenda.

It was also underlined that increased effort is necessary to link data and policy more coherently, and to integrate research findings into policies. Institutional coherence requires more dialogue across government departments and among government, employers and Civil Society. Regional consultative processes should consult more with Civil Society and take their input seriously; and regional meetings should be more widely publicized among Civil Society. Migration profiles could be a useful mechanism to identify program needs and actions, if linked more closely to poverty reduction strategies. Finally, alliances between public and private sectors in the interests of migration and development may be best built on discussions about mutual benefits and trade-offs.

More details about the Civil Society Meeting and its outcomes are available in the report of the Civil Society Days, available at Annex 6 and on the GFMD Civil Society website (**www.gfmd2009.org**).

4. THE GOVERNMENT MEETING (4-5 NOVEMBER)

During the Government Meeting, over 530 delegates, representing 142 UN member-states and observers and 30 international organizations, as well as the European Commission, participated in two plenary sessions and seven break-out Roundtable discussions. In addition, the Heads of Delegation discussed the future of the GFMD in the afternoon of 5 November.

A. Opening Plenary Session (4 November / 09.00-13.00 hrs)

The opening plenary session was attended by the **President of the Hellenic Republic, H.E. Mr Karolos Papoulias;** the **Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic, H.E. Mr George Papandreou;** the **Secretary-General of the United Nations, H.E. Mr Ban Ki-moon;** the **Minister of Interior, Decentralisation and E-Governance of the Hellenic Republic, Mr Giannis Ragkousis;** as well as several members of the Greek Parliament and Government.

The session was chaired by **Mrs. Theodora Tzakri, Deputy Minister of Interior, Decentralisation and E-Governance.** In her opening remarks, she underlined the need for an inclusive, cooperative and honest approach towards the complex issues related to migration and development and hoped that the Third GFMD would make a step in that direction.

The **Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic, H.E. Mr George Papandreou**, stressed the diversity of experiences of Greece with migration: a country of origin, a country with an important and dynamic diaspora, a country of return migration and, more recently, a country of destination and of transit. Migration should be approached from a wide angle, with new ways of thinking and new policies, in order to take account of the opportunities and benefits which regulated migration represents, including for development. This session also offered the opportunity for the Greek Government to outline its action plan on migration, including the revision of its residence permit system, measures to promote social integration through access to education and health care for those who work and live in Greece, and provisions to allow second generation migrants to access Greek citizenship; and to call for more equitable burden-sharing with the EU countries in connection with the influx of migrants into Greece.

The **UN Secretary-General, H.E. Mr Ban Ki-moon**, once again honoured the opening session of the GFMD with his presence, thus demonstrating his ongoing commitment to the process and lending it further legitimacy as a truly global one. He emphasized that the GFMD is shaping the debate on migration and development in important ways and is changing practices on the ground. Harnessing the power of migration to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and to reduce poverty and inequality is a common goal. He also mentioned the *three challenges* ahead of the GFMD.

The *economic crisis*, which brings to the fore the need to avoid that it leads to exploitation of migrants and makes them the scapegoats for job losses and lower wages; the forecast by the World Bank of falling remittance flows - the most tangible development benefit of migration - adds urgency to the need for better managed migration flows. *Climate change* is another major challenge and is already affecting and displacing millions in Asia and Africa, so far mostly internally; international migration, however, is likely to increase if climate change goes on unchecked. Thirdly, more international cooperation is necessary *to tackle human*

trafficking, including through the ratification of the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children.

Finally, the Secretary-General recalled that migration requires policies which can evolve with the realities of a globalized world. But policies are about people, and the ancient Greek term of "philoxenia", friendship towards strangers, should inspire all during the Third GFMD.

Mr Giannis Ragkousis, Minister of Interior, Decentralisation and E-Governance of the Hellenic Republic, pointed to the specific challenges which Greece faces as a transit and destination country and the need to root out the dark side of migration through international cooperation, but also through fostering development prospects in the countries of origin. The first priority, however, is the protection of legal migrants and the creation of a secure environment for both citizens and migrants.

H.E. Mr Esteban B. Conejos Jr., Undersecretary for Migrant Workers'Affairs at the Department for Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, in his capacity as **former Chair**, stressed that the GFMD was moving inexorably from a consensus of understanding to a consensus of action and had constructed a model of the policy environment most conducive for migration to work for development.

H.E. Mr Tobias Billström, Minister for Migration and Asylum Policy, Sweden, as Presidency the European Union, underlined the need for the GFMD to continue to focus on issues related to migration **and** development and to remain an informal and state-led process.

Mr Jacques Barrot, Vice-President of the European Commission, outlined the three pillars of the global EU approach towards migration: increasing mobility, combating irregular migration and fostering its contribution to development. In the context of the latter, he offered to work between Athens and Mexico jointly with the GFMD participants on a new instrument: the migration profiles ("profils migratoires").

H.E. Mr Saqr Ghobash, Minister of Labour, United Arab Emirates, underscored that the essential value of the GFMD lies in its being a platform for sharing views, ideas and policy experimentation in a climate of trust and respect. He underlined the need to weigh the costs and benefits of migration from the standpoint of all stakeholders.

H.E. Mrs. Lorena Escudero, Minister for Migration, Ecuador, who spoke **in the name of the South American countries**, pointed to the complexity of human mobility, which needed multi-dimensional analysis with a focus on human rights.

For **H.E. Mr Khandkar Mosharraf Hossain, Minister of Expatriate Welfare, Bangladesh,** the GFMD has, since its inception in 2006, filled a void in the multilateral migration architecture. He called upon all countries not to raise barriers to migration in a time of global economic crisis.

H.E. Mr Neoklis Silikiotis, Minister of Interior, Republic of Cyprus, reminded that immigration cannot be a replacement for economic development, or a short-term policy, but needs to be looked at from a long-term point of view.

H.E. Ambassador Ali El Mhamdi, Director for Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Morocco, stressed the value of the participative approach of the Forum. He also appreciated the contribution which the GFMD is making to raise awareness of the need to tackle simultaneously irregular immigration and the synergy between migration and development.

H.E. Sir John Kaputin, Secretary-General of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, considered the objectives of the Forum as a high priority for the development agenda of its member-states and has, to this end, created an all-ACP migration facility and ACP migration observatory, where research and information can be shared so as to allow informed policy formulation. The GFMD is seen by the ACP countries as a unique and suitable launching pad for partnerships that promote equality, transparency, inclusiveness, joint decision-making, home-grown initiatives and ownership in development cooperation.

Mrs. Suzanne Sheldon, Director of the Office of Population and International Migration, US Department of State, expressed her appreciation for the leadership which Greece had shown in the preparation of the Meeting, including on the future of this state-led, non-binding and dynamic entity. She underlined the cross-cutting nature of migration, with links to development, human rights, refugee protection and national security among many others, and the need for nations to work together to find answers to the numerous questions these issues raise.

Mr Said Mohamad Oussein, Minister-Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of the Comores Islands in Geneva, considered migration and climate change to be the biggest challenges for his country. The Third GFMD comes at a time of concurrent crises, which are particularly severe for Africa. North-South cooperation needs, therefore, to be strengthened beyond traditional development aid.

H.E. Archbishop Agostino Marchetti, representing the Holy See, stressed the need for solidarity in the context of labour mobility.

Finally, **H.E. Mr Carlos Lopes, Assistant Secretary-General of the UN, Executive Director of UNITAR and current Chair of the Global Migration Group** (GMG), expressed on behalf of the 14 members of the GMG their past and future support for the GFMD. This had already been evidenced by the contribution of several GMG members/agencies to the GFMD proceedings and preparations. He challenged participants of the GFMD not to allow the global recession to undermine the progress made since 2006 in recognizing the development gains associated with international migration, but to base migration policies and practices on human rights, since human mobility is a fundamental component of human freedom, and to strengthen the evidence base for policy-making. In this context, the GMG made available several fact-sheets on the impact of the economic crisis on migration and reminded participants of a large number of other publications, such as the analysis of ILO on the economic crisis, UNDESA's estimates and projections of international migrants by country etc.

The last part of the Opening Plenary Session was dedicated to a report on the **Civil Society Days.** After a short introduction by their Chair, **Mr Costa Gavras**, three representatives of the Civil Society Days presented to the governments the findings and recommendations resulting from the Civil Society discussions and the interface with the governments.

These recommendations concurred on many points with those of the governments: the need for multiple entry visas to facilitate circular migration; portability and transferability of social security rights and basic health insurance; the call for a reduction of migration-related costs and for reform of migration procedures, also to make them more respectful of human dignity. Echoing the UN Secretary-General's statement, Civil Society is pre-occupied by *climate change* and its consequences for migration. They requested special attention for the problem of violence against women and young girls and for certain categories of vulnerable workers. They also called for the protection of all migrant workers, regardless of their status.

Migration profiles offer a possibility for a more coherent approach and, with the development aspect receiving sufficient attention, could become an instrument that contributes to win-win situations. They should include information on the diaspora and on all migrants, independently of their status. The proposal to test on a pilot basis the establishment of a *clearing-house*, making migration and development data more accessible, was another interesting idea put forward. The importance of properly funded research and academic organisations was also underlined.

The Civil Society Days stressed the importance of *building alliances,* also with the business sector, in order to improve the regulatory environment, including the ratification of different international conventions.

On the issue of agenda-setting, while the Civil Society Days recognize the value of the dialogue on the basis of the agenda set by governments, they would nevertheless also like to work on their own issues, based on their own agenda. In this context, the suggestion for defining a common agenda was mentioned, while the further development of consultations with governments at national and regional levels was encouraged.

Finally, the Civil Society Days discussed *how they could improve their own process* in terms of transparency and the creation of institutional memory, for instance by setting up a steering committee, which would include past, current and future presidencies, foundations and a balanced sample of Civil Society representatives.

B. Roundtable 1: *How to make the migration – development nexus work for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)*

(Roundtable Coordinator: Mr Romeo Matsas // Greek National Advisor: Mr Manos Skoulas)[6]

The Roundtable 1 sessions were directly inspired by the overarching theme of the Athens GFMD Meeting. More specifically, this Roundtable looked at strategies to make the "migration and development" nexus work for the achievement of the MDGs. While migration is not specifically mentioned in the MDGs framework, it is closely linked to the achievement of these goals (for instance on poverty reduction, gender equality or health). In this regard, the first session addressed ways of mainstreaming migration in development planning; the second session focused on new approaches of engaging diasporas for development; and the third session related to the root causes of migration in light of the current global economic crisis[7].

Session 1.1.: Mainstreaming migration in development planning – Key actors, key strategies, key actions[8].

(Co-Chairs: Greece and Republic of Moldova)

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[6] This report was also made possible thanks to the efforts of the RT1 notetaker, Ms. Katerina Liakopoulou.

[7] For the background papers supporting the works of these sessions, see **www.gfmdathens2009.org**. As some issues were mentioned in different sessions of RT1, and in order to avoid repetitions, these will only be listed where they are more relevant to the sessions topics.

[8] Some of the issues raised in this session were further analysed in the 3.1 session of the Athens GFMD Meeting.

This session looked at strategies to be implemented, actors to be involved and tools to be used for the mainstreaming of migration in development planning as to support the achievement of the MDGs.

Main observations and findings

On **mainstreaming mechanisms**, the session did not limit itself to aspects related to institutional coordination and capacity enhancement, but also stressed issues that were important to take into account in such a mainstreaming exercise: protection of human rights, gender, regional perspectives, role of diasporas etc.

Regarding *institutional coordination*, delegates stressed the need to bring different ministries together, and to have strategies at ministry and inter-ministerial levels. In addition, when a separate ministry or office in charge of the diaspora exists, it was suggested to involve it in development planning coordination. Some laws or policy "white papers" designed to increase coherence were presented. Participants also stressed the importance for origin and destination countries to create appropriate governmental mechanisms for such coordination, while acknowledging that specific forms should be country specific. The importance of a dialogue with migrants in this regard was also pointed out.

In parallel, though some PRSPs incorporate migration issues, it is necessary to look at how to "operationalize" this link in a beneficial way for development. In this regard, the common initiative taken by international organizations for the elaboration of a "Handbook on mainstreaming migration into Poverty Reduction and Development Strategies" was valued.

Many delegates, however, stressed the co-related issue of *lack of capacity* to carry out such an exercise, in terms of expertise, resources, data and analyses, and the assistance that may be needed by some countries. Another issue was to link such a mainstreaming exercise with the *protection of migrants' fundamental human rights,* also as a way to maximize the potential benefits of international migration for development.

It was also suggested that migrants should receive the legal market wages of the host country, have universal access to medical care, have access to all education and social and financial benefits enjoyed by the population of host countries as foreseen by national law, but the discussion on this topic was inconclusive[9].

Similarly, *gender* was considered as a key element to take into account when mainstreaming migration in development planning, not only in terms of gender data and statistics, but also acknowledging the different challenges which men and women face in migration (and the specific resources to be allocated to, and projects to be carried out, for women in this regard). Also, some delegates stressed that, since the root causes of migration may be similar among countries of the same region, it was necessary to link these efforts also at *regional level*, besides efforts made at the national and the GFMD levels.

Finally, it was stressed that such a mainstreaming exercise also includes several other policy areas such as *diaspora involvement, remittances* or those related to *brain drain/ brain gain.* The latter was especially important in regard to the loss of human resources needed for the achievement of the MDGs, although mobility should be considered as a free choice and people should be able to migrate when they want to. Solutions related to diaspora engagement, promotion of remittances or circular migration were also put forward in this context.

[9] This issue was also discussed in session 2.1 of the Athens GFMD Meeting.

Participants also noted that *lack of development* is often at the origin of migration. Therefore, it is important to take measures to reduce the unemployment of highly skilled, who do not have the opportunity to contribute to the development of their country. It was also suggested that, while countries of origin should receive development assistance in conformity with their expressed needs and priorities with a view to achieving the MDGs, there might be as part of this a need to direct assistance to those sectors suffering a lack of human resources due to migration. It was also suggested that the total amount of emoluments, including all allowances, financial and others, to migrants, as well as direct and indirect contributions to the countries of origin, should be included in the ODA of countries of destination; but the discussion on this topic was inconclusive.

On the migration profiles data and capacity, participants repeatedly stressed the need for more data and analysis to underpin the development of a coherent policy linking migration and development, and to understand how migration impacts the development of countries of origin. When these data are lacking, capacity should be strengthened at local levels in developing countries of origin to generate it, for instance through the creation of observatories or migration statistics offices for the analysis of migration flows and their impact on development. Among the many elements deemed important for mainstreaming migration in development planning was information about the way remittances evolve in different times and regions; as well as the resources spent on education and health care for migrants leaving the country; the skill acquisition and skill losses due to migration; and the necessity for data to be disaggregated by sector, gender, age and types of migration (temporary, permanent, returning).

Participants thus discussed the *'migration profiles'* as a tool to produce harmonized and comparable data for coherence and evidence-based policy-making on migration and development. Though many countries were already familiar with this tool, the discussion looked at developing an internationally agreed template to be reported on at the next GFMD meeting. Some conditions were put to ensure their efficiency, such as guaranteeing ownership of the partner country; regular updating of data; and effective use of the information in development planning. Participants suggested that migration profiles should be flexible to adapt to different countries and should not only include data on migration, but also on the labour market, employment, unemployment, and by sector. It was further stressed that they should include information on both countries of origin and destination, as well as gender - disaggregated data; that they could rely on local expertise (and that resources could also go to the generation and updating of this information); and that they could also be established at the regional level. These migration profiles could also be linked to Poverty Reduction Strategies.

On the information exchange platforms, examples of Migrant Resource Centres were presented as a tool to inform migrants about to leave or to return and reintegrate. In parallel, the need was stressed to organize public awareness campaigns in countries of destination to inform the public about the migrants' contribution to the economic development of the country.

Participants finally approached the issue of **comprehensive partnerships** not just from a geographical point of view (i.e. including countries of destination and origin), or in term of multi-stakeholder approach, but also from the policy angle (i.e. covering diaspora, remittances, ethical recruitment etc.). Some specific examples were presented that promoted synergies between migration and development at bilateral and regional levels. These addressed issues ranging from social security to the fight against trafficking and irregular migration, to promoting regular migration, protection of human rights of regular

migrants, and the facilitation of circulation or of remittances. An example of South–South cooperation supported by a donor country was also put forward.

Recommendations and follow-up actions

The report presented at the end of the session referred to the need for policy coherence and coordination at the national level and for cooperation between countries of the same region. It also mentioned the need to have a gender balanced approach to migration. It further stressed that migration benefits both countries of origin and destination, as well as migrants themselves; and that diasporas can contribute to the development of their countries of origin. The report also presented migration profiles as a good initiative to which more countries should contribute, and stressed that Migrant Resource Centres were also considered important as they provide information to potential migrants. Similarly, bilateral agreements can create safer and well managed migration. The final recommendations of the session were:

- Migration should be integrated into National Development Plans (NDPs), but also into Poverty Reduction Strategies. These must be complemented by policies, concrete actions and programmes at all levels. Their operationalization can lead to a win-win-win situation for both countries of origin and destination, as well as migrants.
- There is a need for policy coherence and coordination at the national level between relevant ministries and agencies.
- Based on the European Commission (EC) migration profiles, participants agreed that they can be beneficial to development and recommended that more countries adopt them. The profiles, however, need to be regularly updated, owned by the concerned countries and used as a tool for coherence between migration and development policies. It is suggested that they include relevant data and analysis concerning countries of origin and destination. Interested countries and international organizations are invited to liaise with the EC regarding improvements they wish to bring to migration profiles to be reported at GFMD 2010.
- Bilateral agreements and regional initiatives can reinforce effectiveness of partnerships. Comprehensive partnerships between countries of origin and destination promote managed and regulated migration to the benefit of development.
- Information should be provided to migrants at all stages of the migration process. In parallel, awareness raising campaigns in the destination countries should inform the public about migrants' contribution to their development.
- Regarding the gender issue, it is necessary to have disaggregated data and to take into account the different needs and experiences of men and women migrants. Resource allocation should be equitably distributed.

Session 1.2: Engaging diasporas and migrants in development policies and programs – Their role? Their constraints?

(Co-chairs: Mexico and Netherlands)

This session focused on the contributions that migrants and diasporas can make to the development of their country of origin. Building upon the discussions begun in Brussels and Manila, it elaborated on the policies of origin and destination countries in supporting

diaspora. It, therefore, introduced a "roadmap", which - though not meant to be a "one-size-fits-all" tool - lists five steps for such engagement[10]. This session enabled the exchange of different experiences on diaspora engagement, both between countries of destination and origin and between countries with large or limited experience in diaspora engagement for development.

Main observations and findings[11]

Among **areas of actions** for diaspora to be involved in development, participants initially mentioned the issuance of diaspora bonds; and incentives/partnerships for remittance facilitation and formalization, as well as for remittances to be used in a collective manner, and financial tools to encourage investments beneficial to development. Examples were put forward of specific initiatives taken by countries of origin and destination, alone or in partnership, stressing the importance of working overtime, showing credibility, and with stable institutions. This also included donor support to South-South cooperation.

Similarly, examples of diasporas' involvement in charity or post-natural disaster reconstruction were put forward. Interestingly, a case was mentioned where, due to the current economic crisis, government priorities for engaging with the diasporas were shifting from philanthropy to business investments. Participants, however, stressed that diasporas' contribution to the development of countries of origin was not just about remittances, but also about transfer of knowledge and expertise.

The session focused on **governmental strategies to engage diasporas for development**. A first element discussed was the *"know your diaspora"* principle. Some examples were mentioned, where governments relied on local community organizations to link with diaspora networks, while governments were responsible for needs assessments.

Though some mentioned their intention to develop a policy framework for a comprehensive diaspora engagement (including an impact assessment of the diaspora activities), participants stressed the difficulty of having reliable data on diasporas. Therefore, it was suggested that the migration profiles also include information on diasporas in their country of destination.

In addition, several examples were put forward of interaction between governments and diasporas in order to better know skills, opportunities for matching and expectations. In this regard, the need for some countries to develop appropriate approaches towards different types of diasporas (low skilled/ highly skilled, by sector etc.) was also stressed. Examples of websites or databases listing the skills of diaspora members were also presented.

Participants further acknowledged the need for *gender-sensitive* outreach policies towards diaspora, as women encounter different challenges before they leave and while abroad. Similarly, the need for diaspora projects to avoid reinforcing gender stereotypes was also stressed.

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[10] See the background paper for this session for the Roadmap and the GFMD working definition of "diaspora".

[11] The session started with the presentation of 6 recommendations from the Civil Society Days by one of the co-chairs: (i) governments could lower barriers to the formal establishment of migrants or diaspora organizations; (ii) governments of both countries of origin and destination could support the capacity building of diaspora organizations; (iii) governments, international organizations, NGOs and diaspora organizations could organize regional fora for diaspora to share experiences, good practices and lessons; (iv) beyond return migration, temporary and virtual return can also make a valuable contribution to development; (v) since SMEs play a crucial role in development and job creation, diasporas and governments may cooperate to support them; (vi) Civil Society organizations, including research institutes, should implement strategies to include diaspora in their work.

The second element was *building trust* among governments and diasporas, where participants stressed services that countries of origin could provide to diaspora through consular or other networks. Additional rights can be granted by countries of origin to that end, such as enabling dual nationality or voting rights. Building trust is also the result of specific measures to facilitate diaspora involvement in development through reform of legal, administrative or financial instruments, but also through change of mindset. Specific governmental projects aimed at facilitating such involvement were also presented, as well as symbolic rewards for the diasporas (including as remitters). Equally important was the effort to maintain contact over time with the diaspora through education (especially for second or third generations) or specific media programs.

To further these efforts, some home countries have established consultative councils elected by diaspora members or reserved seats in their parliament for the diaspora. Some hold large-scale consultation with their diaspora on a (bi)annual basis or have established *'cahiers de doléances'* for the diaspora. An important element also put forward was the creation of a specific ministry or government office in charge of diaspora issues.

Delegates underlined the importance of *clear communication of intentions* in order to create a common discourse. Transparency is central in this approach, as many diaspora members hesitate to contribute, because they are not used to governmental institutions. Participants also stressed the need to ensure continuity and resources for sustaining these partnerships.

Capacity building was also mentioned not only in terms of support to governmental institutions working with diasporas, but also to support diaspora organizations (in terms of fund-raising and strengthening the weaker position of diaspora, when they compete for development funds with established NGOs; but also in terms of project management etc.). In parallel, suggestions were made for specific facilities to be established for diasporas to access development resources.

On the *partnerships to be built*, participants mentioned the necessity for coordination among different ministerial departments and levels of governance at national level. Some delegates also underlined the relevance of city-to-city partnerships on diaspora engagement, and the benefits of having an ongoing multi-stakeholder dialogue. Specific partnerships among countries of destination and origin countries also facilitate diaspora engagement, for instance on financial (i.e. access to credit) or social insurance (i.e. professional leave to be involved in development) issues.

With regard to *diasporas' involvement in development activities*, specific difficulties faced by host countries were raised, such as the fact that aid funds cannot be spent within the donor country, which impedes support to diaspora organizations, or integration policies that prevent targeting certain groups on grounds of their country of origin[12]. Some donor countries have, however, designed projects or facilities for diaspora engagement in development, including encouraging established NGOs to consider diaspora organizations when looking for partners.

Among other issues, the idea of *promoting diaspora networking at the regional level* in regions of origin and destination was also mentioned. Similarly, though not mentioned in this session's background paper, participants proposed that the contribution of diaspora to their countries of destination could be the focus of a future GFMD session.

[12] However, the view was also expressed that including diasporas in development also contribute to their broader integration in the host country.

Finally, it was suggested to further operationalize this session's exchange through the creation of a **handbook** on lessons learned and practical modalities for engaging diaspora for development. Many countries agreed and volunteered to participate in its development, for completion by the next GFMD meeting in 2010.

Recommendations and follow-up actions

The report presented at the end of the session stressed that diasporas are trustworthy agents of change, as they provide financial and economic aid, as well as transferable knowledge and skills. It also mentioned the need to ensure continuity of established bilateral partnerships by sustaining trust and mobilization and that, to this end, constant adaptation of such an agenda is essential. It also stressed the need to engage diaspora organizations in various regional development projects with the participation of countries of origin and destination, as well as supranational and regional organizations. In addition, consideration should be given to providing rights, including dual citizenship and the right to return, to the diasporas, in order to include them in decision-making, and to initiate capacity building aimed at creating coordination, managing and monitoring bodies both at societal and national levels. Finally, the needs of countries of destination should be taken into account, which may entail cooperation on the issue of social inclusion of newly organizing diasporas. The final recommendations of the session were:

- Establish a handbook containing lessons learned on, and practical guidelines for, engaging diasporas in development activities.
- Engaging diasporas starts with knowing your diaspora. Therefore, a concrete suggestion was to further include diaspora data in migration profiles.
- Create a common discourse between diasporas and governments on intentions, options and actions for cooperation aimed at building and / or sustaining trust.
- Support the capacity of diaspora organisations and institutions working with diasporas for development.
- Engage diaspora organisations in development planning of both countries of destination and origin, with particular emphasis on procedures.
- Study the contributions of migrants to the wellbeing of destination countries.
- Adopt a gender-oriented perspective in identifying, elaborating and implementing concrete projects in order to take into account concerns and needs of vulnerable groups.

Session 1.3: Addressing the root causes of migration through development, specifically in light of the current global economic crisis

(Co-chairs: Bangladesh and United Kingdom)

This session discussed recent findings on the impact of the current economic crisis on the migration-development nexus, as well as lessons learned from previous crises; and explored ways to protect the development benefits of migration throughout this crisis. The session discussed mainly three elements: (i) shorter-term policy responses to limit the negative impact of the downturn on the benefits of migration for development; (ii) longer-term steps and the role of the migration-development nexus in recovery; and (iii) the specific issues of gender and returning migrants.

Main observations and findings

Despite the lack of data, it seems that the impact of the economic crisis is not as big as some feared, though it is specific to regions or sectors, whether in terms of remittance flows or unemployment rates. Participants stressed that policy responses should be calibrated to the country situation, but should also take into account immediate needs as well as long-term implications of measures taken, while paying special attention to vulnerable groups. Migration will continue beyond the crisis, since its fundamental drivers will remain. In addition, the link between migration and development can also help countries to recover from recession.

On short term policy responses, examples were first given from *a previous crisis* where a crisis management unit was set up to assist migrants 24 hours a day and provide information to their families; international organizations supported the return of migrants; and the government's responses focused on job creation, school rehabilitation for the children of migrant workers, and support to projects targeting origin areas of migrants, as well as on diplomatic efforts related to claims for compensation and unpaid salaries and other dues. From this experience, the key role of international cooperation and technical support was underlined.

Regarding the current crisis, a recent study presented during the session showed that the impact of the crisis varies according to the level of dependence on labour export, the sectors in which migrants are concentrated, and the fact that migration is limited to one or more countries of destination (especially if they tighten their policies). Among the policy recommendations from this study were: short-term cautioning; consider return migration in a positive way for the recovery in countries of origin; and use the crisis as an opportunity for long-term migration strategies embedded in development.

Another delegate mentioned job creation resulting from *increasing domestic demand* as a policy response in countries of origin. Delegates stressed the need to also address *internal migration* in the context of the session and to include data on internal migration in the migration profiles. It was further suggested to find solutions for countries experiencing imbalances in their balance of payments due to *falling remittances*. Others mentioned *regularization of irregular migrants* as an option in times of crisis - along with efforts to stem irregular migration -, especially as some migrants' residence permits become invalid upon loss of a job. Finally, as *unemployment* appears higher among migrants in countries of destination, it was suggested to adopt measures against discrimination of migrants in society and in the labour market; assist migrants to find new jobs; enable them to do this with the same visa permit; and collect comprehensive data on migrant workers by sector of employment to avoid simplistic statements and "scapegoating".

Linking the crisis to the *root causes of migration*, delegates stressed that these can also relate to conflict or climate change. The latter should be taken into serious consideration in this discussion, as adaption to climate change may be inevitable and also to avert "climatic" migration. Some delegates suggested that root causes could be the topic of a separate session in a future GFMD meeting.

Among **longer-term solutions**, it was considered necessary not only to maintain, but also to strengthen, commitments to the *achievement of the MDGs*, in order to protect the most vulnerable during the crisis, as a drop in ODA could worsen the impact of the crisis. Specific development measures were presented, for example job creation in rural areas; actions towards better, faster and safer transfer of remittances; strategies on return and

reintegration, that would include support packages, legal assistance, training etc. In this regard, it was also suggested to focus on income growth rather than economic growth.

In terms of *migration policy responses*, participants stressed that they should take longer-term issues into account, such as the fact that drivers of migration will remain valid beyond the crisis, including demographic imbalances or labour market gaps. It was, therefore, suggested to avoid restrictive measures against migrants to prevent a backlash over the longer-term, and to avoid major changes in migration systems. Similarly, integration efforts should be pursued, as should be efforts for facilitating mobility (portability of pension and social rights)[13].

Lastly, participants stressed that *the crisis is also an opportunity* for the international community to discuss and collaborate on migration. It can lead to partnerships between countries of origin and destination that ensure flow of information, and to the adoption of common measures that minimize the negative impact of the crisis. Migration can also be part of the recovery, if, for instance, one takes account of migrant entrepreneurship.

On **gender,** though evidence of a specific impact of the crisis on women was inconclusive, delegates insisted on the need to monitor this and to ensure protection of women, as female migrants risk facing double discrimination as migrants and as women. This also takes into account the feminization of migration. An example of a specific project was presented, implemented by a government in coordination with local authorities and NGOs, in order to meet the requirements of the local market, offer advisory services and support women's entrepreneurship. A survey of female migrants in the same country also showed that they want to acquire new skills because of the crisis.

On **return migration due to the crisis,** while predicted large-scale return has not materialized, participants stressed that countries need to adopt longer-term reintegration programs with attention to legal advice, recognition of foreign qualifications and health care for returning migrants, while avoiding special treatment of returnees over that of the local population. More importantly, countries should ensure that the skills of returning migrants match with local market demands. Research shows that return is more efficient when voluntary and after acquisition of skills. In this regard, as countries of destination are better aware of the skills of their immigrants, it was suggested that they work together with countries of origin and help them with their reintegration. It is also important to work towards improving policies, so that migrants do not return temporarily, but have the motivation to stay and contribute to their country[14].

Recommendations and follow-up actions

The report presented at the end of the session highlighted that collection and sharing of data and experience, together with research, are very important in order to formulate policy responses and assess the different impacts of the economic downturn on various situations. Gender and age-disaggregated data are needed, as well as regard for the feminization of migration in its broadest context. The report also stressed that partnerships are essential in order to coordinate and deal with the crisis together and in coordination with each other. It also cited basic principles such as minimizing forced migration and ensuring migration by choice, while the human rights of migrant workers should be protected and discrimination eliminated. It also referred to the fact that regularization of irregular migrants can be part of the solution.

[13] On integration, see also the chapter on Roundtable 2.
[14] On this, see also the chapter on Roundtable 2.

Further, the report mentioned the need to work together for global and national recovery and take into account both benefits and challenges of the migration and development nexus. In this regard, job creation is a field that needs to be better explored. Policies for legal migration require clear, smooth and effective procedures, but structures should not be randomly adapted due to the downturn, since migration is here to stay. The report also underlined the need for policies to be synchronized, taking into account other global phenomena such as climate change, rising food prices etc. Finally, it called for special attention to more vulnerable groups such as women and children, although sectors occupied by men are those mostly hit by the current economic crisis. Return packages should be more focused on development, also in the rural areas. The final recommendations of the session were:

- There must be coordinated, unrestricted, transparent data sharing and sharing of experiences of the impact of relevant policies, so that policy responses to the crisis can be based upon the best available evidence.
- Establish partnerships between countries of destination and countries of origin to deal with the varied manifestations of the economic downturn in coordination with each other.
- Work together in the recovery of the crisis, taking into account the realities, benefits and challenges of the migration-development nexus.
- Give serious consideration to the impact of climate change on migration and to joint efforts to face this challenge.
- The need to have a particular focus on managing xenophobic tendencies and discrimination in times of economic crises and job losses.
- Regarding the gender issue, special attention should be paid to the feminization of migration.

C. Roundtable 2: *Migrant integration, reintegration and circulation for development*

(Coordinator: Dr Irena Omelaniuk // Greek National Advisor: Ms. Dimitra Mimikopoulou)[15]

Roundtable 2 focused on two crucial phases in the life cycle of migration - the time spent abroad, and the return home if the migrants choose to return - and the policies that support, protect and empower the migrants and their potential contribution to development during these phases.

The discussions were set in the context of emerging forms of temporary and circular mobility, which are challenging traditional approaches to immigrant integration in host countries, and to return and reintegration of migrants. They complemented the development orientation of Roundtable 1, but also built on the discussions of earlier GFMD meetings on protecting and empowering migrants, as well as on fostering more opportunities for regular migration (for example, through new forms of circular migration).

Session 2.1: Inclusion, protection and acceptance of migrants in society – linking human rights and migrant empowerment for development

[15] This report was also made possible thanks to the efforts of RT2 notetaker, Mr Kostas Koukouzikis.

(Co-Chairs: Argentina and United Arab Emirates)

The session explored the assumption that the more migrants are included, protected and accepted in their host societies, the better they are able to secure the wellbeing of their families and contribute to development in host and origin countries. It expanded the usual debate on migrant integration, as the domain of permanent immigrants, and considered the basic needs and human rights of temporary or circulating migrants as well. Temporary, seasonal or other circulating migrants often have less access to rights and services than permanent immigrants, yet experts agree that lower skilled, temporary migration brings major benefits for developing countries, often measurably larger than longer-term or permanent migration.[16]

Main Observations and Findings

There was general consensus about the *inalienability of fundamental human rights* of migrants, both in society and in the workplace, where many temporary migrants suffer from discrimination and xenophobia. Regarding other social services and entitlements, there was a need to examine more closely how to tailor policies for the different contexts or types of migration, short-term temporary, longer-term, permanent etc.

Integration is a long-term process and there is *no one-size-fits-all model*. Little research and evidence exist of the impacts of integration on development, and program evaluation requires time. But some good practices are starting to emerge: for example, Australia has factored into its new Pacific Seasonal Worker Pilot Program, which covers 2,500 workers, an analysis of the development impact of the program. How the situation of the migrants while abroad can affect their capacity to assist development back home remains to be tested.

There is a widely recognized need to *revisit the concept of development* in the integration context. The transfer of social remittances as an outcome of human development may be one of the most important links between migration, specifically migrant integration, and development. But host countries also need to better understand the development benefits they derive from their immigrants, both temporary and longer-term. Basic services in health, education and social welfare, coupled with sound anti-discrimination laws and practices and promotion of inter-cultural dialogue, were needed.

Education and training policies are key to enhancing the human development of migrants. Greece offers some good practices, among them inter-cultural schools, language and vocational training courses for unemployed migrants. The "centres promoting employment" are one-stop-shops that try to match demand and supply and assist unemployed migrants.

Policies which provide *equal access to health services* are also central to enhancing the human development of migrants and their family members and are a key part of social integration. Good practices in host countries range from universal health and welfare cover to all migrants, such as offered by Argentina and Portugal, to special, limited access to health care, such as Spain's Health Card scheme for all migrants who register with local authorities. The Greek program on integration also focuses on providing access to health services.

Migrant associations can help leverage the contribution of migrants to development back home. In Israel, these can include associations of temporary migrants as well. Governments can strengthen their capacities to undertake counselling, information sharing and investment back home. It was proposed to include faith-based associations in such capacity

[16] See also the Session 2.1 background paper drafted by Dr Lindsay Lowell and Ms. Stephanie Lezell, Georgetown University (www.gfmdathens.org).

building, as well. Collective migrant actions contribute to community development projects back home, and to emergency assistance during natural disasters, such as tsunamis and floods.

Integration policies are best implemented at *local levels*, which may require decentralization of funding and program development. In the framework of its Strategic Plan for Citizenship and Integration, Spain makes financial transfers to town and city councils via the Solidarity Fund and on an annual basis offers funding assistance to innovative programs to promote the integration of immigrants, forestall risk situations and improve social cohesion at the local level. In Japan, local government works closely on social welfare services, offers increased opportunities, improves the working environment and examines the visa system.

Intercultural dialogue is needed among migrants in order to enhance their human development. Interculturality is one of the basic principles of the Strategic Plan for Integration of Spain. Governments also need to promote the participation of migrants in policies, as well as their political participation. Portugal, for example, uses socio- cultural mediators between state services and the immigration population. In Latin America, immigrants can vote in local elections. In Greece, it is planned to adopt new rules to give migrants voting rights in local elections, as well as citizenship for second generation migrants.

Special funding is needed for integration programs for all types of migrants, such as Spain provides in the context of its Strategic Plan for Integration. There was considerable discussion of costs and benefits of both migration and the policies to deal with it. Governments often face trade-offs between the costs and benefits of policy options. Argentina's universal welfare/health care system, which also provides for all migrants, is over the longer term more cost effective than neglecting migrants' medical and social needs. It was agreed that assessments were needed of the benefits of integration for development. But ILO and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights also see merit in a counter-factual approach of assessing the costs - to migrants, families and society - of exclusion of migrants.

High costs of migration can also be a major threat to the wellbeing of migrants, according to a recent Bangladesh study on how to *reduce the cost of migration* through low cost pre-departure loans[17]. A pilot loans scheme has been proposed, managed jointly by the Bangladesh Government, banks and NGOs, which could reinforce the integration potential of lower income migrants through more secure, affordable temporary and circular mobility. The Philippines has shown that bilateral labour agreements offer consensual frameworks for reducing and monitoring recruitment fees. In the Philippines, where the fee regimes of migrant recruiters are already stringently controlled by law, there are moves to abolish recruiter fees altogether.

Gender considerations and protection of children should be integral and central to any migrant integration programs. Greece offers some good practices in protecting and empowering female migrants through special counselling and Greek language courses, and mentoring for employment and business creation. The Strategic Plan for Integration of Spain takes account of female protection as well. The integration of children, the impacts of the emigration of parents on migrants and on gender relations within families and communities are key priorities for the European Commission.

[17] The study "A Market-based Approach to Reduce the Cost of Migration: A Bangladeshi Feasibility Study", funded by the UAE and implemented by Professor Philip Martin, was an outcome of the Manila GFMD 2008 (available on the GFMD website).

Cooperation among ministries, public administration services and non-state actors is essential. In Spain, the Directorate General for Immigrant Integration funds non-profit organizations annually to assist immigrants in employment, health, women's welfare, cultural issues and awareness raising. In Europe, the EU fosters an Open Method of Coordination in policy making on Integration, which brings together social partners, civil society and excluded groups in annual consultations in Brussels.

IOM reports that *Migrant Resource Centres*[18] can be an effective facility to protect and empower migrants in their host society, also through inter-cultural dialogue with cultural mediators, such as in Slovakia and Portugal. In the origin country, they can inform and orient migrants for their life and work abroad. They can also link the efforts of origin and host countries, both informally and formally, as for example the Portugal-SNIAE local information centers. The creation of networks can save time, space and money, e.g. by sharing information and its costs.

To *strengthen institutional protection* of foreigners against xenophobia, a number of delegates again recommended broader ratification of the UN Convention of Human Rights. One country suggested that a compilation be made of best practices in regard to implementation of the UN Convention, for uploading on the GFMD web-site.

Recommendations and Follow-up Actions

- Compile best integration practices and publish these on the GFMD website.
- Undertake further *research on how to evaluate impacts of integration policies* on development (including cost-benefit analyses).
- Conduct a comparative study on social protection policies for migrants.
- Give consideration to commencing *a pilot project on a bank/non-governmental program for low cost pre-departure loans to migrants* as a follow-up to the Bangladesh study for Roundtable session 2.1, and to offer lessons for other governments.
- Give consideration to *strengthening the networks between Migrant Resource Centres in origin and host countries*. Evaluate their effectiveness from the migrants' perspective.

Session 2.2: Reintegration and circular migration: effective for development?

(Co-chairs: Brazil and Portugal)

This session revisited a theme already discussed in 2007 and 2008, but from the angle of reintegration, a key element of circularity, which is also a new factor for development planning. It explored the assumption that effective reintegration of returning migrants can support development efforts, particularly at community level, and specifically in the context of circular migration.[19]

Main Observations and Findings

[18] The study "Migrant Resource Centres: Examining global good practices in providing services to empower migrants for development", funded by the UAE and implemented by IOM, is an outcome of the Manila GFMD 2008 (available on the GFMD website).

[19] See the Session 2.2 background paper drafted by a team of government officials from Brazil and Portugal, available on the GFMD website.

In the preparations of this session, and in its Background Paper, circular migration was seen as including temporary, repeat, long-term and permanent migration at all skill levels. Circular migration calls for different policies of return and reintegration than in traditional temporary labour migration schemes; for example: more flexible entry, residence and employment-related policies by host countries, and broader policies of reintegration for temporary and longer-term returns by migrants and diaspora in the origin country.

Better linked-up labour market planning to match migrants with jobs abroad and at home can make circular migration work for development. Some temporary labour migration programs offer good practices also for circular migration. Some participants pointed out that migrants should be allowed to bring their families, to foster a sense of belonging and increase their integration in their host country.

As with session 2.1, this session encouraged *a shift of thinking from return/reintegration per se to development*, and the inclusion of return and reintegration in its broader planning. If sound development programs are in place, then reintegration is likely to be both personally successful and of value for development. This would also assure the involvement of local communities in the reintegration. Since the first GFMD discussions on this in 2007, some EU countries have introduced new provisions to facilitate circular migration within a broader context of development considerations, and new pilot programs have commenced.

Participants agreed that *different strategies are needed for different countries*, depending on their stages of development, institutional capacities and the skill levels and circumstances of the migrants. As a country of origin already quite advanced in its development strategy, Mauritius had the capacity to negotiate favourable circular migration agreements with labour-receiving countries, and create a conducive business environment for return and reintegration. Aiming to be a new world-class knowledge hub, Mauritius has tied its circular migration programs with Canada and France to human resource development and modernization of its infrastructure. Mauritius claims that, if countries want their diaspora to come back, they particularly need to modernize the health and knowledge sectors.

Germany recognizes that circular migration can reduce migration pressures and, when managed, can bring benefits for all players and contribute to development. But the policies need to be tailored to the skills and needs of different groups, such as high, medium or lower to unskilled workers or students (reference: The German "Returning Experts Programme").

For Mexico, the process of reintegration is linked to national development and policy-makers need to study the different return needs and outcomes of persons under circular migration programs, bilateral agreements, and voluntary and involuntary repatriation programs. There are different "recipes" for mobility. The challenge is how to link them and relate them to development.

Legal frameworks are necessary to facilitate reintegration schemes such as small and medium enterprise development or matched funding arrangements. With its Economic Reform Programme, Mauritius has promulgated new laws to facilitate business, improve workplace relations and rights, streamline SME policies and institutions, reduce corporate tax and generally encourage return and investment in Mauritius. Facilitative legal frameworks include flexible visa, residence and multiple entry regimes in the host country, protection of human rights of the migrants, portability of pension rights, low-cost transfer and investment of funds, skills recognition and access to training and re-skilling. The EU

"Blue Card"[20] for qualified workers from third countries is an efficient, low-cost means to facilitate circularity in Europe. Some delegations felt that this may also engender brain drain from developing countries.

But the broader political and economic framework is just as important, as exemplified by the EU-Africa Mobility Employment Program, which fosters brain circulation in concert with capacity building and participation of civil society. Also, a practical and technological framework facilitating the engagement of employers is needed to make circular migration work for labour markets. Labour information offices, Migrant Resource Centres, recruitment agencies and training partnerships are good practices to be found in various forms in the EU-Moldova and EU-Cape Verde mobility partnerships, the Mauritius-France and Mauritius-Canada agreements, and a range of bilateral labour agreements such as between Spain and Colombia, Portugal and Ukraine, and between the Philippines and a host of partner countries.

Countries of origin can *factor circular migration into their broader development strategies*. As Mauritius demonstrates, this can lower the barriers to return and provide development-oriented incentives to reintegrate. Reintegration can already begin at home and before migrants depart their host country. Countries of origin can also support and protect their migrants while abroad, and prepare them for return and reintegration. Mexico recognizes that education, health and networking are three indispensable ingredients for migrants to succeed abroad and benefit their families and home communities. The Mexican program "Keep Healthy, Return Healthy" promotes the health and human security of Mexican migrants abroad. Brazil and the Philippines have established their own schools for émigré children abroad, and the Philippines offers counselling, training, re-skilling and welfare support to its nationals in host countries where these services are less prevalent.

Host countries can also *integrate circular migration into their migration and development strategies* with partner countries. These include vocational training, reintegration support and capacity building in the origin country. The German "Returning Experts Programme" aims at building capacities in developing and emergent countries through the transfer of expatriate know-how. Germany supports economic and political stabilization in post-conflict countries through the return, vocational training and placement of skilled émigrés from those countries. The Netherlands offers education and vocational opportunities to people from developing countries, to foster their "personal development plans". The Netherlands has also called for proposals from partner countries to pilot circular migration programs.

Origin countries can *match migrants' skills with actual jobs in development sectors* back home. The Philippines and Mauritius have shown that this should begin before departure, through information and skills training aimed at securing jobs abroad and job reinsertion after working abroad. Information for migrants, and recognition of skills acquired abroad, are critical for reinsertion in the labour market of origin countries. Some circular programs, such as seasonal agricultural worker programs, do not allow migrants to expand their skills. Nor do many countries of origin give recognition to new and enhanced skills brought home

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[20] The EU Blue Card Directive, which entered into force on 18 June 2009, establishes more attractive conditions for third-country workers to take up highly qualified employment in EU member-states, by creating a fast-track procedure for issuing a special residence and work permit (see http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:155:0017:0029:EN:PDF).

from abroad. The Philippines has 37 resource centres, where professionals, volunteers and NGOs offer training and start-up funding for returnees.

Host and origin countries need to work together, and with private, non-governmental and international agencies, to link return and reintegration with development projects, particularly at local, community levels. Such programs should include the community as beneficiaries and as possible multiplier agents that leverage resources to support community development initiatives. The Mauritius-France circular migration pilot program is an example of how the country of origin factors migration into its national development program and the host country responds to it for mutual benefits. The Mauritius-France bilateral agreement provides specific categories of visas, also for re-entry, based on a common acceptance of the economic and social integration of the workers in both countries. This agreement benefits Mauritius because every Euro saved by migrants in France doubles its value when returned to Mauritius.

The costs of reintegration, and of circular migration programs generally, can be shared through partnerships, matching of funds and Training Funds. These can help distribute costs and ownership more evenly, but also bridge the gap between immediate needs, for example government or donor subsidies for business start-ups or salary supplements, and longer-term self-sufficiency of the returning migrants, and/or sustainability of their business ventures.

The EU-Moldova and the EU-Cape Verde mobility partnerships are seen as effective consultative frameworks for managing and monitoring the migration flows. They set common and mutually acceptable definitions, such as for regular and irregular migration, or integration/reintegration; and set the migration negotiations in the broader context of diaspora consolidation, market development and strengthening labour capacities at the national level.

International expert organizations are indispensable partners in bringing the relevant stakeholders together, at origin and host country ends, for the set-up and initial management of circular migration programs. For example, Mauritius is developing with IOM a database management system for online registration of persons wishing to participate in the circular migration program. ILO has also provided technical assistance on social security issues and helped with the conclusion of bilateral agreements with France and Canada. Mauritius is also participating in the EU call for proposals for cooperation with third countries. And the World Bank is undertaking follow-up monitoring for the Netherlands and Portugal on their circular migration programs.

Gender-sensitive perspectives can be a way of adapting reintegration policies to new forms of mobility. Female returnees often have fewer incentives than men to return or circulate their skills. Considering the special needs of returning females can sharpen adaptation strategies. OSCE training planned for 2010 includes the gender perspective in reintegration programs.

Evaluations of the impacts of circular migration and reintegration on development are practically non-existent. Many governments saw an urgent need to collect data for this. The capacity to do this and to undertake impact evaluations needs to be strengthened in countries of origin. Key indicators should be identified, although these are likely to be locality or region-specific.[21] The impacts of return and reintegration on families,

[21] See also the study by Professor John Willoughby on "Preparing contract workers for return and reintegration - relevant for development?", funded by the United Arab Emirates, in support of the discussions of Roundtable 2.

communities and local labour markets need to be monitored over time. One indicator proposed was the social mobility of the family; another was the multiplier effect on local employment rates.

But what were the optimal time-frames for personal development, or for reintegration to start working for development? Lessons could be drawn from long-running return and reintegration programs such as the German "Returning Experts Programme"; and monitoring tools and indicators may offer themselves from evaluations of other programs (e.g. the IOM MIDA evaluation resulting from the Brussels GFMD 2007).

Governments noted some *complementarity between integration and reintegration* in the context of development. Integration can begin in the country of origin, and return and reintegration can begin in the host country. For example, skills training and orientation for work abroad also prepare migrants for return and job reinsertion at home, if linked to real labour market needs in both countries. Portable social security benefits can encourage people to return and provide some additional capital for business and job ventures back home. Reducing the costs of migration, and the risks of exploitation by recruiters in the country of origin can prepare the way for a safer, more protected life for the migrants abroad. These conditions can broaden people's choices, including their decisions to return and reintegrate in the home country.

Recommendations and Follow-up Actions

- Establish a database on circular migration programs as an information tool for the GFMD.
- Undertake longitudinal or one-time studies of the impact of reintegration on the local labour market in the origin country.
- Establish an observatory to collect data and experiences of reintegration, to support future evaluations. Non governmental organizations should contribute to this project.
- Define a set of indicators to evaluate the development impact of reintegration strategies.

D. Roundtable 3: *Policy and Institutional Coherence and Partnerships*

(Coordinator: Dr. Rolph Jenny // Greek National Adviser: Dr. George Mavrommatis)[22]

Policy and institutional coherence and partnerships on migration and development are central to the GFMD process. In Brussels and Manila, they were identified as a mainstay of the GFMD, underpinning all other themes relating to migration and development policies and practices. The *concept* of policy and program coherence, the *mechanisms* required for more coherent institutional arrangements and the need to *assess* these concepts and arrangements were discussed in depth in Brussels and Manila, as were the *data and research tools* required to develop coherent and evidence-based policies. Concurrently, in the context of partnerships and cooperation, regional consultative processes *(RCPs)* and more recent *inter-regional fora* and initiatives were addressed in these meetings.

The GFMD in Athens pursued the debate on these critical issues, and the two sessions of Roundtable 3 offered a further opportunity for participants to take stock of recent developments, report on progress made and explore new areas for coherent policy-making, action and cooperation at the national, regional and global levels.

Session 3.1: Policy and Institutional Coherence – Latest Data and Research Findings

(Co-chairs: Morocco and Switzerland)

In expanding the previous GFMD discussions on policy coherence, data and research tools, the session examined the inter-relationships between data and policy coherence and addressed the role of data and research findings in supporting the development of coherent and evidence-based policies on migration and development. At the same time, governments reported on progress in promoting greater policy and institutional coherence, including related intra-governmental arrangements and obstacles to achieving such coherence. An informal inquiry carried out during the preparatory process among a number of GFMD participating countries had yielded some detailed responses and demonstrated the continuing efforts by governments to work towards such coherent policies and practices.

The background paper for session 3.1 highlighted a series of issues, including the degree to which policies on migration and development are included in Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) and National Adaptation Programmes for Action (NAPAs), the review of the Millennium Development Goals and their link with the Athens GFMD overarching theme, as well as donor policies in the context of migration and development. The discussion focused on how to continuously build political will to pursue coherent and effective migration and development policies, how to pursue institutional coherence, how to achieve a better understanding of the importance of data collection and analysis for evidence-based policies, including promoting more cooperation between governments, academia and international agencies, and assess the contribution of Migration Profiles, initiated by the European Commission, in developing the evidence base on migration and development.

Main observations and findings

The co-chairs of the session stressed the need for more coherence, cooperation and coordination between different ministries and departments within government, and among governments, placing emphasis on the necessity to "move from rhetoric to implementation". A key objective of the discussion was to examine the role and usefulness

[22] This report was also made possible thanks to the note-taking efforts of Dr. Mavrommatis.

of data and policy-relevant research that can support coherent and effective practices and policies in the field of migration and development, to continuously build political will and technical capacity for this purpose, and to review the role of the national GFMD Focal Points in the context of institutional coherence. How can governments gain better access to policy-relevant data and research, so that such information can be of real use for governments to develop more evidence-based policies? The importance of the recently created *ad-hoc* Working Group on Policy Coherence, Data and Research was also noted.

Participants recognized that, while progress was being made in building political will, *policy and institutional coherence* at the national level was often still hampered by a lack of communication between different ministries and departments. A gender-based approach and the social and human rights of migrants should be an integral part of policy coherence, and the concerns of civil society actors and migrants themselves should also be taken into account in developing coherent policies. Policy coherence is clearly linked to institutional arrangements and a whole-of-government approach. Often, efforts to work towards greater policy and institutional coherence also require more funding and international support.

But a coherent approach also implies that national legislation is brought in line with international law, that development and multiculturalism are promoted in both origin and host countries, that non-authorized migrants are regularized, and xenophobia and human trafficking are combated. Coherence on migration and development policies should be based on a shared responsibility between origin and host countries. It was noted that national budgets play a role in building a coherent approach, and that the challenges of policy coherence differed between developed and developing countries. One participant offered to produce a concept note on the variables of coherent policy-making, to be made available to GFMD participants. Another suggested holding a special Roundtable session in 2010 on partnerships with civil society, and that the GFMD should also focus on how development can reduce forced migration and ensure a better balance of participation between practitioners and academics.

Many participants then reported on their efforts to set up coherent and better coordinated *intra-governmental systems*, including the creation of coordinating focal points, inter-ministerial taskforces and working groups, as well as studies to discuss and assess competing interests of concerned ministries, for example by analyzing global challenges and then assess these in terms of national solutions and approaches.

Many participants also considered that *capacity building* on migration governance and the migration and development nexus is an essential aspect of international cooperation and partnerships. Such support should be strengthened further, not least because it also has a bearing on the capacity to collect reliable data on migration and development.

In terms of *donor policies*, some felt that trade and economic policies are contradicting international migration and development policies, for example when fishing policies in the North contributed to unemployment in the fishing industry in the South. Sometimes, governments preferred to conclude narrowly focused bilateral agreements rather than more coherent multilateral arrangements.

Concerning the responses to the *informal inquiry on policy and institutional coherence*, a majority of the 32 contacted governments had developed new policies and programs reflecting a coherent approach to migration and development, a larger majority had refined existing activities, and a majority responded that the GFMD discussions had contributed to these actions. In terms of institutional coherence, a large majority had assigned responsibility for coordinating the planning and work on migration and development to a

specific government unit, a majority had reinforced the role of the GFMD national Focal Point in this context, but only in a minority of countries was this Focal Point also in charge of intra-governmental coordination.

Turning to the *relationship between data, research and policy coherence*, there was general consensus that coherent and effective policies on migration and development depend on reliable, updated and accessible data and research. While participants considered that such data are essential for coherent and effective policies, the abundance and dispersed sources of data and research findings make it difficult for governments to access such information. Efforts should be made to prioritize research activities on international migration and development to adapt these to the concrete needs of government policy-makers.

Participants saw a need to develop the capacity of developing countries to collect and analyze migration and development data, such as through the soon to be established ACP observatory in 12 pilot countries in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific, to be implemented by a consortium of some 20 research and policy institutes, formed and led by IOM. The importance of periodically updating these data was emphasized. Coherence would be achieved by creating national multiple ministry technical working groups or committees to bring together data producers and data users, including national statistical offices, as had been done in the context of the EC-funded Migration Profiles for West and Central Africa, implemented by IOM.

Data collected and analyzed by the OECD is valuable, particularly on employment and gender, and should be mainstreamed into specific research. The lack of data, such as labour market information in many developing countries, was mentioned, as was the module on labour migration statistics, developed and tested by the ILO, to be incorporated in household surveys. The recommendations included in the 2009 report 'Migrants Count' of the Commission on International Migration Data for Development Research offer a useful roadmap for governments and experts to improve data collection and analysis before the 2013 High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development.

Building on the proposal of the 2008 GFMD, it was noted that the *2010 round of population censuses* currently underway is the main source of internationally comparable migration data. It was suggested to involve national statistical offices in the improvement of migration data and address this matter also in the February 2010 meeting of the United Nations Statistical Commission.

One good practice was the exchange of migration data on the basis of common definitions and methodology in Latin America and the Caribbean. More research was needed on the impact of migration on development, including in host countries, gender implications for migration and development policy planning, the impact of migration on women and children left behind, and on South-South migration.

Migration profiles, initiated by the EC and implemented by IOM in partnership with relevant governments and non-governmental stakeholders, were raised by a number of participants, following the earlier discussion in Roundtable session 1.1. While participants were broadly supportive of the approach and concept of the profiles, they stressed the importance of ownership of these profiles by the countries concerned. Some participants suggested enlarging the scope of the profiles by including human development factors and more data on aspects of economic development. Migration profiles are not simply a "snapshot" of the migration picture in a country at a given point in time, but a means to continuously build national capacity to update data and provide relevant information.

While there is value in a uniform template, it was recognized that the Migration Profiles should be adapted to specific country situations, elaborated in close cooperation with the concerned countries, and seen as a process for institutional capacity and coherence building rather than an *ad-hoc* activity. They also provide a solid basis for integrating migration into national development and poverty reduction strategies, as well as to inform national migration policy development. As the template for the migration profiles was under review, it was suggested to revert to them at the next GFMD meeting.

In terms of future work and process, a number of participants welcomed the creation of the *ad-hoc Working Group on Policy Coherence, Data and Research*. This new informal mechanism could help the GFMD continuously focus on the link between policy coherence and data, including in between the annual GFMD meetings, and create a better understanding of data and research findings for evidence-based and coherent policies on migration and development. Academia and international organizations should participate in this working group to strengthen the interface between government policy-makers and non-governmental experts. Also, the June 2009 Expert Meeting in Vienna was useful, and such inter-sessional events relating to the GFMD should continue to take place.

Recommendations and Follow-up Actions

- The GFMD should pursue its focus on policy and institutional coherence on migration and development, and on research and data that can underpin such coherence. The 2010 GFMD in Mexico should again include a Roundtable session to discuss these issues.
- Sustained attention needs to be paid to mainstreaming and integrating migration into development planning processes, including Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs), activities to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and National Adaptation Plans of Action concerning climate change (NAPAs).
- The May 2009 'Migrants Count' report of the Commission on International Migration Data for Development Research and Policy should be used as a valuable roadmap for governments and experts to improve data collection and analysis.
- The 2010 global census round should be used as an important opportunity for all member-states to collect international migration data. National statistics offices should be alerted and the UN Statistical Commission should take this up at its upcoming meeting in February 2010.
- Migration Profiles, developed by the EC and implemented by IOM in partnership with relevant governmental and non-governmental actors, should be further pursued as a tool for developing a comprehensive approach to data collection and coherent migration and development policies. These profiles, which are owned by the countries concerned, need to include data and analysis on both the country of origin and the host country. Countries and international organizations interested in establishing Migration Profiles and developing the format are invited to contact the EC, and progress would be reported at the GFMD in 2010.
- The GFMD *ad-hoc* Working Group on Policy Coherence, Data and Research should pursue its activities in order to (1) continue providing an interface between government policy-makers and expert researchers, (2) discuss ways to improve the utility and prioritization of policy-relevant evidence, (3) ensure that policy and institutional coherence, data and research are also discussed in between annual GFMD meetings, and (4) contribute to preparations of future GFMD meetings. It remains voluntary and

open, and includes interested GFMD participating governments, experts from civil society and academia, and international organizations.

Session 3.2: Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs) and Inter-regional Fora

(Co-chairs: Australia and Thailand)

Session 3.2, pursuant to recommendations made in Manila on RCPs and Inter-regional fora, focused on regional and inter-regional cooperation and partnerships, offering yet another opportunity for governments and other actors to report on and review the various activities carried out in specific regions and address the mutually reinforcing role of the GFMD and regional processes and Inter-regional fora.

Main observations and findings

The co-chairs explained the concept and role of RCPs and Inter-regional fora, highlighting that, at present, such processes and fora cover essentially all regions of the world, that governments participate because they can concretely benefit from such activities and that their approach and agendas vary in accordance with regional priorities. A key question was to examine the synergies between the GFMD and RCPs and Inter-regional fora, including how the GFMD findings and outcomes on the migration and development nexus can feed into the work of interested RCPs, and how the GFMD could benefit from the experience of RCPs and Inter-regional fora in translating informal dialogue into concrete action by governments and other stakeholders.

Australia presented the report of the *June 2009 Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of RCPs in Bangkok*, which drew together representatives from the major RCPs around the world to share experiences and exchange views on the value and advantages of facilitating regional dialogue and cooperation on migration through RCPs. Reference was made to the flexible focus and agendas of RCPs according to the participating governments' priorities, their informality, their state-led nature, the linkages between RCPs and GFMD, the agreement in Bangkok to hold such meetings every second year, and the assessment study currently carried out on the impacts and outputs of RCPs (report on the Bangkok meeting also available on the GFMD website at **www.gfmd.org** and the IOM website at www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/policy-research/regional-consultative-processes).

Ecuador, speaking on the *South American Conference on Migration*, mentioned the Conference's comprehensive approach to migration and development, and that human rights are an integral part of its agenda, as are labour migration, remittances, social security issues and migrant regularization. The Conference also increasingly focuses on the contribution of migrants to the development in host countries, an aspect which should also be pursued in the GFMD context.

France, speaking on the *Euro-African Conference on Migration and Development*, highlighted the similarities of the Conference with the GFMD in terms of the Conference's concrete focus on the development implications of migration, partnerships and cooperation, shared responsibility of participating countries, work with diasporas, the promotion of temporary and other forms of legal migration, including the creation of solid migration, mobility and employment partnerships; and that the EU's Global Approach to Migration underpins the follow-up to the Conference. France also made reference to the activities of the *5+5 Dialogue in the Western Mediterranean* and the *Mediterranean Transit Migration Dialogue (MTM)*.

An international organization emphasized its commitment to supporting RCPs, stressing their varied agendas adapted to regional priorities, and their effectiveness in addressing immediate concerns shared by participating governments. It stressed the complementarity and mutually reinforcing nature of RCP dialogue and cooperation at the regional level with the discussions held in the GFMD context, including the enrichment of GFMD debates through learning of the activities of certain RCPs, and the evolution of several RCPs resulting from discussions in the GFMD. It intends to strengthen its support to RCPs, when so desired by the participating governments, including through its website section dedicated to the RCPs, and it supports the creation of an RCP in the Caribbean.

Indonesia referred to the *Bali Process,* which focuses on combating irregular migration. It has created increased cooperation between countries in Asia and the Pacific, in particular law enforcement agencies. Workshops on issues such as people smuggling and irregular migration have helped foster greater cooperation and have been supported by IOM and UNHCR. A new Steering Group ensures coordination and management of the process. Indonesia also commented on the *Colombo Process*, highlighting its focus on cooperation for legal overseas employment from Asian countries of origin, including the protection of labour migrants, the need to maximize the development impact of such labour migration, and skills development. Synergies between the Colombo Process and the EU need to be reinforced, and the next Colombo Process Ministerial meeting will be chaired by Bangladesh in early 2010. Concerning the *Abu Dhabi Dialogue*, capacity building and training projects, and the continuous progress on confidence building and dialogue, were mentioned. The Abu Dhabi Dialogue brings together Colombo Process Asian labour origin countries with Asian labour destination countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council, Singapore and Malaysia in the context of four partnerships for development.

Bangladesh, referring to the *Colombo Process*, mentioned its usefulness in terms of dialogue on best practices and concrete cooperation, and confirmed that it will chair the process in 2010.

Professor Randall Hansen elaborated on the assessment study on RCPs, commissioned by IOM. This study had been called for in a recommendation of the Brussels GFMD in 2007. Key questions of the assessment were the RCPs' overall impact on migration governance and the future development and orientation of RCPs. Over 80 interviews were conducted with governments and other actors, addressing such issues as definitions, thematic agendas, changes in practices and policies, confidence building and cooperation, and state ownership of RCPs. The study looks at lessons learned, stressing that RCPs work best when they are tailored to the specific contexts they have been elaborated for, and are firmly led by states. A number of recommendations are made on the future role and evolution of RCPs, including in contributing to better, broader governance of migration at regional and global levels, as well as the potential role of the UN and IOM in this regard.

Some participants considered the activities of RCPs an important stepping stone towards better migration governance and medium and longer-term policy-making, as they help shape policies and practices at the national and regional levels. The scope of RCP agendas varies and is tailored to the regional concerns and interests of governments. They are thus flexible and, depending on the interest of governments, can include issues ranging from border management, development, human rights, social questions and trade to labour migration and employment. A key element, and advantage, of RCPs remains their success in building trust, and their informality and "non-bindingness" which are powerful means to pursuing practical and solutions-oriented approaches to migration issues.

In terms of RCP *achievements and outcomes*, there exists solid experience in follow-up and implementation of outcomes by participating governments. However, some of the achievements are "invisible", since it is difficult to measure the concrete level of trust that RCPs can build among governments, or to assess the exact value of extensive and informal networks resulting from RCP contacts. To explain these advantages to Finance Ministries to obtain continuous financial support is not always easy. But there are also very visible and concrete outcomes, for example in the context of the Bali process, which has very effectively dealt with human traffickers and smugglers.

Concerning the regional coverage in Africa, some participants wondered whether RCPs exist in all sub-regions and mentioned that issues such as forced migration, refugees and development should also be addressed. Specific reference was made to the MIDSA and MIDWA processes in Southern and West Africa respectively, as well as the new IGAD RCP, in East Africa, all supported by IOM, and that efforts are underway to expand both the breadth and depth of coverage of priority issues for these governments and their partners, which are all dependent on resources.

Participants also referred to the extensive *capacity building and training activities* which RCPs have promoted and implemented over many years: skills training, border security and legal issues, visa policies, information and intelligence sharing, labour migration facilitation, international migration law, human rights, the migration and development nexus, *inter alia*. These discussions involve a wide range of governmental agencies at the national level and, therefore, have an important role to play in fostering national level policy coherence.

Many participants valued the impact of the GFMD discussions on migration and development on the agendas of inter-regional fora, and of those RCPs which include development aspects in their agendas. In a number of regional agendas, the findings and conclusions of GFMD meetings have been incorporated and have stimulated and contributed to regional debates and actions. In others, however, the migration and development nexus is not considered a priority, although some discussions are held on the broader implications of migration on development.

The *GFMD and RCPs and Inter-regional fora can learn in various ways from each other*, both for mutual reinforcement, but also to avoid duplication of efforts. *On-going information exchange* on the respective activities was considered by many participants as essential, to keep the GFMD informed of regional activities and *vice-versa*. This can be achieved by keeping the activities of RCPs and Inter-regional fora on the GFMD agenda, for example by devoting each year, until 2012, a GFMD session on such activities, where governments would share their regional experiences, but with particular focus on those processes and fora that include development considerations in their agendas.

Many participants welcomed the *use of the GFMD website to facilitate such information exchange* in between the annual GFMD meetings on RCPs and Inter-regional fora dealing with migration and development. A link should also be created between the GFMD website and the expanded RCPs section of the IOM website, which would host more detailed information on each of the major RCPs and increase exchanges among them. Exchanges among RCPs, Inter-regional fora and the GFMD should include information on their varying agendas, to inspire the agendas and approaches of others.

In terms of *translating non-binding dialogue into concrete outcomes and action*, a long-standing practice of many RCPs, participants felt that this experience could also be of use to the GFMD process itself. Referring to practices in certain RCPs of creating working groups of governments interested in a specific topic and related action proposals, some felt that this

approach could also be adopted by the GFMD, for example for inter-sessional or virtual meetings.

RCPs and inter-regional fora should also reinforce cooperation with regional economic institutions, many of which have included migration and development issues in their official work agendas. This is particularly relevant for regional integration processes and possible arrangements for free or facilitated movement of people in certain regions.

Finally, policy and institutional coherence was mentioned, including through multiple ministry involvement, and where governments participating in certain RCPs and Inter-regional fora also adopt a coherent approach in those fora, building on the extensive discussions of this topic in the GFMD.

Recommendations and Follow-up Actions

- During its next three meetings until 2012, the GFMD should continue holding a Roundtable session for interested governments and other actors to exchange views and information on RCPs, Inter-regional fora and regional organizations and economic integration processes, with particular emphasis on the development implications of migration, as well as their contribution to promoting more effective, balanced and cooperative migration governance.
- In between GFMD meetings, RCPs and Inter-regional fora should on a voluntary basis exchange information, by providing information on their migration and development related activities to the GFMD website, which should also create a link with the enhanced IOM website section on RCPs, to facilitate greater exchange between and amongst the RCPs on a broader range of migration issues.
- The mutually reinforcing role of the GFMD and RCPs and Inter-regional fora should be promoted further, for the purpose of learning from each other and ensuring that the findings and recommendations resulting from GFMD discussions feed into the discussions of RCPs and Inter-regional fora that deal with the migration and development nexus, and *vice-versa*.
- The positive experience of RCPs and Inter-regional fora in translating informal dialogue into action, including through working groups of governments interested in specific follow-up and implementation of outcomes, could usefully inspire inter-sessional follow-up to outcomes and recommendations resulting from GFMD discussions.

E. Gender

Gender was addressed as a horizontal issue across all Roundtables. The most important policy messages from the discussions were reported by the Gender Rapporteur at the Closing Plenary Session of the Athens meeting. All three Roundtables consistently raised the need to include the gender perspective in strategic and policy planning on the migration-development nexus.

Roundtable 1: To make this critical nexus work in developmental policies, while according the gender perspective its due importance, it was essential, when mainstreaming migration into development planning, to take account of the different needs and experiences of men and women. This requires, *inter alia*, the allocation of resources to specific gender-relevant policy fields, such as continuing education, health and gender-specific information and service provision. Gender concerns also need to be taken into account in the development and implementation of projects that engage the diaspora. Migration Profiles may also prove a useful device for incorporating the gender perspective into migration and development planning. But sex-aggregated data were urgently needed to achieve these policy priorities.

It was repeatedly stressed that development planning should also aim for sustainability. Yet, planning for sustainable development, e.g. by managing natural resources and climate change effects, of necessity also involves gender sensitivity.

Roundtable 2: The gender perspective must be factored into the planning and implementation of policies of inclusion, protection and acceptance of migrants by host communities. Programs and administrative practices to support female migrants include, eg., special centers offering language courses, personal counselling, mentoring for employment and entrepreneurship and legal aid. Raising migrant women's awareness of their rights through official actions such as handbooks and easy access to information can also foster their integration into host societies. But these practices need to be complemented by institutional efforts to prevent exploitation of migrant women and combat multiple discrimination and abuse.

Similarly, reintegration policies need to take account of the gender perspective, particularly when adapting reintegration to new forms of temporary and circular movements. Access to reskilling and counselling can be critical in preparing women for return and reintegration. OSCE's Labour Migration Training program for 2010 includes gender sensitivity training.

Roundtable 3: There is a need to intensify institutional cooperation with NGOs, particularly women NGO's, focused on migration and development issues, both in host and origin countries. Coordination and collaboration are needed to plan and implement policies that prevent trafficking and forced migration and, thereby, alleviate not just human suffering, but also shame.

Strengthening partnerships can be important for the development of coherent research programs and collection of data across borders. Data collection and analysis should bring to light instances of gender inequalities. Research and data were urgently needed on those left behind, especially women and children, also taking into account the relevant social costs of migration.

Finally, special attention should be given to collecting and processing gender-related data on labour market entry, as well as on the effect of educational levels and cultural backgrounds on such entry.

F. Special Session on the Future of the Forum

Heads of Delegation met in a special session to discuss issues linked to the future of the Forum. The debate was chaired by Mr Peter Sutherland, United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative for International Migration and Development.

In his introduction, Mr Sutherland reminded participants of the developments that had helped in the creation of today's GFMD, acknowledging that it had come a long way to being a unique platform for governments to exchange views, ideas and experiences on migration and development issues. He stressed the GFMD's specificity, notably its government-led and informal character combined with its link to the UN, which plays a crucial role in conferring it legitimacy and universality.

Taking a mid-term perspective, he outlined a course of action that, throughout the next three meetings of the Forum, should allow for a thorough assessment that would assist in reviewing its future. This process should culminate during the Spanish Chairmanship, in anticipation of the High-Level Dialogue on Migration and Development of the General Assembly, set for 2013. Meanwhile, it is necessary to assess and revisit some of the practical aspects of the Forum on the occasion of the Athens Meeting.

Participants were invited to share their views on the various aspects relating to the future of the Forum. The discussion centered on the document submitted by the Chair (based on a recent debate in the GFMD Steering Group). The depth of exchanges and the number of speakers (39) highlighted the degree of knowledge and interest of the participants about the GFMD. They expressed their overall satisfaction with the way the Forum is conducted, notably on the basis of the Operating Modalities. They re-affirmed that the process should remain informal and state-led. They underlined its multi-dimensional character and emphasized the importance of the development dimension which needs to be strengthened through the participation of government officials with particular expertise in development issues. To this end, there was a need to draw on the broad base of expertise from around the world.

A number of participants expressed interest in the suggestion to develop a multi-year GFMD agenda, notably for the sake of a certain continuity, while taking into account thematic priorities of the respective chairs. They also underlined the need for flexibility, a forward looking and innovative approach, while stressing that wide consultation of all the participants can contribute to the creation of ownership.

The usefulness of the GFMD Support Unit was widely acknowledged, notably as a link between rotating Chairs providing continuity in the flow of information through the GFMD website, but also as an administrative and logistical back-up for the Chair-in-Office. Several governments pledged financial support for its continuing operation in 2010.

The strategic role of the GFMD Steering Group was emphasized, while, at the same time, the difficulties linked to its size (presently 34 countries) were noted. A smaller group, composed of committed governments, could be envisaged on the basis of a system as yet to be determined. The Friends of the Forum, open to all UN countries and observers, should not only be informed on all GFMD matters, but should also be consulted for input. Some governments suggested de-linking the Steering Group meetings from the Friends of the Forum meetings, to avoid unnecessary repetitions and confusion of their respective roles.

There was general consensus that the main GFMD outcomes are the policy recommendations, while exchange of good practices, partnerships and networking were also

deemed valuable. Improved dissemination of these outcomes and the tracking of their follow-up were suggested, notably through the use of the GFMD website or other tools.

Many participants recognized the value of the Civil Society input for the GFMD. They underlined the importance of an improved dialogue between governments and Civil Society organisations, notably at national level and during the Forum preparatory process. The interface that took place on the eve of the government meeting was deemed useful, especially for its improved interactive features. At the same time, a number of governments stressed the importance of preserving the governmental character of the Forum.

Some participants mentioned the need for the Forum to give more attention to regional organizations, notably by granting them observer status, and to the necessity of facilitating the participation of Low Income and Least Developed Countries in the GFMD preparatory process.

A general consensus developed around the notion that GFMD meetings should be conducted in a cost-conscious manner in line with their informal character. Organizing governments should submit their provisional budget at an early stage, so that contributions could be announced in a timely manner.

As primary agents for enhancing national and international coherence, the role and responsibilities of national Focal Points should be strengthened.

The representative of the incoming Chair, Mexico, took note of the remarks made during the meeting and said that they will be taken into account in the preparations of the 4th GFMD. He announced that the agenda of the Mexico meeting will be submitted to governments for consultations in the near future. It is the intention of his government to improve Civil Society participation without the GFMD state-led character being altered. They also intend to make full use of the GFMD structures, notably by making the Steering Group more effective and relying on the assistance of the Support Unit. Mexico is ready to consider how best to assess the GFMD's impact on policy thinking, to facilitate future discussions on the future of the Forum. He also announced that his Government will take a sober approach to organizing the Forum in Puerto Vallarta in 2010.

In his concluding remarks, Mr Sutherland praised the participants for their contributions to the debate, which seemed to reflect the interest of governments in the GFMD process. He expressed the hope that, on the one hand, the Global Migration Group would be more active, as a group, in the GFMD process and, on the other, that the private sector would be more involved in the overall dialogue. Having his Special Representative tenure extended by the UN Secretary-General, he pledged his continuing commitment to the GFMD process, reminding the participants of the extremely limited financial means and support on which it is operating, requiring everybody's participation to make it work.

G. Closing Plenary Session (5 November / 17.00-18.30 hrs)

Reports on the three Roundtables and on the Gender issue were presented during the closing session by **Mrs. Elisabeth Adjei**, Director General of the Ghana Immigration Service, for Roundtable 1; **Ms. Cecilia Romero Castillo**, Commissioner of the National Migration Institute of Mexico, for Roundtable 2; **Ms. Eva Haagensen**, Senior Advisor to the Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion of Norway, for Roundtable 3; and **Mr Andreas Takis**, Deputy Ombudsman in Greece, for the Gender issue.The substance of their statements is reflected in the respective reports on the Roundtables, and the list of concrete follow-up actions likely to be addressed is available in Annex 1.

Mr. François Fouinat summed up the discussions on the Future of the Forum on behalf of Mr Peter Sutherland, UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for International Migration and Development.

The incoming Chair, **H.E. Ambassador Juan Manuel Gomez Robledo, Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico**, indicated the way forward from Athens to Mexico: Mexico has already started its internal preparations and will draw on the experiences of the countries which organized the previous GFMDs, while bringing in new actors and creating new initiatives. Mexico is committed to work in an inclusive, transparent manner, building bridges and promoting international cooperation, while giving a central role to the respect for human rights, a shared responsibility. Mexico recognizes that the impact of the Forum discussions depends on how they are translated into action.

In her closing remarks, **the outgoing Chair-in-Office, Mrs. Theodora Tzakri, Deputy Minister of Interior, Decentralisation and E-Governance,** observed that, since its creation, the Forum has gained momentum as a global point of reference, connecting the many threads between migration and development. It has proven its value and resilience. Belgium shaped it and identified the fundamentals of the agenda, the Philippines strengthened its organizational structure and highlighted the issue of human rights, while the Greek contribution and legacy to the process is the solid integration of migration policies into development strategies, in particular in the light of the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. This theme is the bridge between past and future Fora. Finally, the Chair enjoined all participants to start working from tomorrow on all the proposals and recommendations made during the two days of discussions, each according to their own priorities, but turning the Forum outcomes into actual policies.

5. POSTSCRIPT

The Meeting of the Third Global Forum on Migration and Development in Athens has come at a time when the number of international migrants is reaching record levels: 214 million people live outside their country of origin, according to UNDESA's latest figures. This is notwithstanding a recent slowdown in international migration due to the economic crisis.

The GFMD is increasingly recognized as the largest and most comprehensive global platform for dialogue on international migration and development. The Athens Meeting showed that, while the Forum is still only in its third year, it has come far and is starting to influence policies and practices in decisive ways.

Under the Greek Chair, we also witnessed the active participation of countries which had hitherto remained on the sidelines. This has expanded the global reach of the Forum and enhanced its relevance as a space for policy dialogue. The energetic engagement of policy-makers and experts within and outside government, from both developing and developed parts of the world, is growing.

Athens again focused attention on two policy areas which, if linked up smartly, can and do help us to achieve the goals we have set ourselves in the GFMD: safer, more regular migration, higher development impact. A key challenge for the Forum is to remain forward-looking and policy relevant and to ensure that its recommendations are translated into policies and actions on the ground. There are no binding obligations in an informal forum of this kind, but good ideas and policies can inspire appropriate actions from which all can benefit.

To achieve this, the GFMD will need to ensure its own internal coherence, also as an example of the whole to its constituent members. The respective roles of its supporting bodies (Friends of the Forum, Steering Group, Troika, Focal Points etc.) could be strengthened further to make the process more efficient and resilient. While preserving its informal nature, the process also needs to broaden its donor base beyond the few loyal supporters that have carried it to date. Finally, there is a pressing need for tracking the follow-up to policy recommendations made each year, as it is these which ensure that the GFMD moves forward as a process, not just a string of unrelated annual meetings.

We are confident that these challenges will be met one by one under the inspired guidance of future successive Chairs, in cooperation with GFMD members and the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for International Migration and Development.

Annex 1

THIRD GLOBAL FORUM ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT
ATHENS / 4-5 NOVEMBER

Recommendations and Follow-up Actions[1]

RT 1.1: ***Mainstreaming migration in development planning – Key actors, key strategies, key actions.***

1. ***Integrate migration into National Development Plans*** (NDPs) and Poverty Reduction Strategies, to be complemented by policies, concrete actions and programs at all levels.
2. Ensure ***policy coherence and coordination*** at the national level between relevant ministries and agencies.
3. More countries should consider adopting ***Migration Profiles*** (based on the EC's work) as a tool for coherence between migration and development policy, to be regularly updated and owned by the concerned countries, and possibly to include data and analysis on countries of origin and destination. Interested countries and international organizations can liaise with the EC on how to improve the migration profiles (to be reported at GFMD 2010).
4. ***Bilateral agreements and regional initiatives*** can reinforce effectiveness of partnerships, which between origin and destination countries can promote managed and regulated migration to the benefit of development
5. Provide ***more information to migrants*** at all stages of migration; and awareness campaigns in destination countries to inform the public about migrants' contributions to their development.
6. Collect more ***gender-disaggregated data*** to account for the different needs and experiences of men and women migrants. Resource allocation should be equitably distributed.

RT 1.2: ***Engaging diasporas and migrants in development policies and programs – Their role? Their constraints?***

7. Establish ***a handbook*** containing lessons learned on and practical guidelines for engaging diasporas in development activities.
8. ***Include diaspora data in migration profiles***.
9. Create a ***common discourse between diasporas and governments*** on intentions, options and actions for cooperation aimed at building and / or sustaining trust.
10. ***Support the capacity of diaspora organisations*** and institutions working with diasporas for development.

[1] This is an abridged version of the full listing and explanations of the Recommendations and Possible Follow-up Actions in the Roundtable chapters of this Report.

11. ***Engage diaspora organisations*** in development planning of both countries of destination and origin, with particular emphasis on procedures.

12. ***Study*** the contributions of migrants to the wellbeing of destination countries.

13. Adopt a ***gender-oriented perspective*** in identifying, elaborating and implementing concrete projects in order to take into account concerns and needs of vulnerable groups.

RT 1.3: *Addressing the root causes of migration through development, specifically in light of the current global economic crisis*

14. Ensure coordinated, unrestricted, transparent ***data sharing and sharing of experiences*** of the impact of policies, to base policy responses to the economic crisis on best available evidence.

15. Establish ***partnerships between countries of origin and destination*** to deal with the varied manifestations of the economic downturn in coordination with each other.

16. ***Work together in the recovery from the crisis,*** taking into account the realities, benefits and challenges of the migration-development nexus.

17. Give serious consideration to the ***impact of climate change*** on migration and to ***joint efforts*** to face this challenge.

18. Focus particularly on ***managing xenophobic tendencies and discrimination*** in times of economic crises and job losses.

19. Pay special attention to the ***feminization of migration.***

RT 2.1: *Inclusion, protection and acceptance of migrants in society – linking human rights and migrant empowerment for development.*

20. Compile ***best integration practices*** and publish these on the GFMD website.

21. Undertake ***further research on how to evaluate impacts*** of integration policies on development (including analyses of the costs and benefits to all of such policies).

22. Conduct a ***comparative study on social protection*** policies for migrants.

23. Give consideration to ***commencing a pilot project on a bank/non-governmental program for low cost pre-departure loans*** to migrants as a follow-up to the Bangladesh study for Roundtable 2.1.

24. Give consideration to ***strengthening the networks between Migrant Resource Centres*** as facilities that inform and support migrants in their emigration, integration while abroad and their return home. Evaluate their effectiveness from the migrants' perspective.

RT 2.2: Reintegration and circular migration: effective for development?

25. Establish ***a database on Circular Migration programs*** as an information tool for the GFMD.

26. Undertake ***longitudinal or one-time studies of the impact of reintegration on the local labour market*** in the origin country.

27. Establish an ***observatory to collect data and experiences of reintegration***, to support future evaluations. Non governmental organizations should contribute to this project.

28. Define a ***set of indicators to evaluate*** the development impact of reintegration strategies.

R 3.1: Policy and Institutional Coherence – Latest Data and Research Findings

29. The GFMD should pursue its focus on policy and institutional coherence on migration and development, and research and data to underpin such coherence, including ***a Roundtable session in 2010.***

30. Pay sustained attention to ***mainstreaming and integrating migration into development planning***, including PRSPs, activities to achieve the MDGs, and National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPAs) concerning climate change.

31. Use the ***May 2009 'Migrants Count' report*** of the Commission on International Migration Data for Development Research and Policy as a roadmap to improve data collection and analysis.

32. Use the ***2010 global census*** round to collect international migration data. National statistics offices should be alerted, and the UN Statistical Commission should take this up at its next meeting in February 2010.

33. Pursue the ***Migration Profiles*** developed by the EC as a tool for comprehensive data and coherent policies on migration and development. Interested countries and international organizations should contact the EC. Progress would be reported at the GFMD 2010.

34. The GFMD ***ad-hoc Working Group on Policy Coherence, Data and Research*** should pursue its activities as a voluntary and open group including governments, experts and international organizations (see detailed objectives in the Roundtable 3 chapter of this Report).

RT 3.2: Regional Consultative Processes and Inter-regional Fora

35. Continue holding a ***GFMD Roundtable session on RCPs,*** **Inter-regional fora and regional organizations and economic integration processes** over the next 3 years, with particular focus on the development implications of migration.

36. ***In between GFMD meetings,*** RCPs and Inter-regional fora should voluntarily ***exchange information*** *through the* ***GFMD website***. Create a link between the GFMD website and IOM's enhanced RCPs website section.

37. Further promote the ***mutually reinforcing role of the GFMD and RCPs and Inter-regional fora*** so that they can learn from each other, and feed GFMD findings/recommendations into the agendas of those processes and fora that deal with migration and development.

38. The positive experience of RCPs and Inter-regional fora in translating informal dialogue into action could usefully ***inspire the follow-up*** on outcomes and recommendations of the GFMD.

Annex 2

THIRD GLOBAL FORUM ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

ATHENS/ 4-5 NOVEMBER 2009

Roundtable Session Teams

ROUNDTABLE 1: **How to make the migration – development nexus work for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**
Coordinator: Mr Romeo Matsas / Greek National Advisor: Mr Manos Skoulas
General Rapporteur: Ms. Elizabeth Adjei (Ghana)

SESSION 1.1: ***Mainstreaming migration in development planning – Key actors, key strategies, key actions***

Co-Chairs: Greece and Republic of Moldova
Team members: Ethiopia, France, Jamaica, Mauritius, Norway, Spain, Yemen
Other input: European Commission, ILO, IOM, UNDP Human Development Report Office
Rapporteur: Mauritius

SESSION 1.2: ***Engaging diasporas and migrants in development policies and programs -Their role? Their constraints?***
Co-Chairs: Mexico and Netherlands
Team members: Armenia, Bangladesh, Canada, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Ghana, India, Israel
Other input: EC/ UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative, IFAD
Rapporteur: Armenia

SESSION 1.3: ***Addressing the root causes of migration through development, specifically in light of the current global economic crisis***

Co-Chairs: Bangladesh and United Kingdom
Team members: Azerbaijan, China, Egypt, Germany, Greece, South Africa, Yemen
Other input: IOM, OECD, UNDP Human Development Report Office
Rapporteur: South Africa

ROUNDTABLE 2: **Migrant integration, reintegration and circulation for development**
Coordinator: Dr Irena Omelaniuk / Greek National Advisor: Ms. Dimitra Mimikopoulou
General Rapporteur: Mrs. Cecilia Romero Castillo (Mexico)

SESSION 2.1: ***Inclusion, protection and acceptance of migrants in society – linking human rights and migrant empowerment for development***

Co-Chairs: Argentina and United Arab Emirates
Speakers: Greece, Spain
Team members: Australia, Brazil, Ecuador, Egypt, Greece, Israel, Mexico, Philippines, Portugal, Spain, ILO, International Steering Committee for Ratification of the Migrant Workers Convention, IOM, UNOHCHR, World Bank
Rapporteur: Philippines

SESSION 2.2: ***Reintegration and circular migration – effective for development?***

Co-Chairs: Brazil and Portugal
Speakers: Germany, Mexico, Mauritius
Team members: Albania, Colombia, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Netherlands, Philippines, Switzerland, European Commission, ILO, IOM, OSCE, UNDESA, World Bank
Rapporteur: Colombia

ROUNDTABLE 3: **Policy and Institutional Coherence and Partnerships**
Coordinator: Dr Rolph Jenny / Greek National Advisor: Dr George Mavrommatis
General Rapporteur: Mrs. Eva Haagensen (Norway)

SESSION 3.1: ***Policy and Institutional Coherence – Latest Data and Research Findings***

Co-Chairs: Morocco and Switzerland
Team members: Australia, Finland, France, Jamaica, Lithuania, Mauritius, UK
Rapporteur: United Kingdom

SESSION 3.2: ***Regional and Inter-regional Processes and Fora***

Co-Chairs: Australia and Thailand

Speakers: Ecuador, France, Indonesia, Canada
Team members: Australia, Belarus, Ecuador, France, Indonesia, Moldova, Thailand, United States of America
Rapporteur: Indonesia

Annex 3

"Integrating Migration Policies into Development Strategies for the Benefit of All"

17.00- 19.00	REGISTRATION, MEGARON ATHENS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE		
07.30-08.45	REGISTRATION, MEGARON ATHENS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE (COFFEE WILL BE SERVED)		
08.50	CLOSING OF DOORS OF A. TRIANTI HALL		
09.00-10.00	OPENING SESSION IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC, A. TRIANTI HALL *Welcoming Remarks:* - Mrs. Theodora Tzakri, Deputy Minister of Interior, Decentralisation and E-Governance of the Hellenic Republic, Chair of GFMD ATHENS 2009 *Opening Addresses:* - H.E. Mr George A. Papandreou, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic - H.E. Mr Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations - Mr Giannis N. Ragkousis, Minister of Interior, Decentralisation and E-Governance of the Hellenic Republic *Statement by:* - The Hon. Esteban B. Conejos Jr., Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, Chair of GFMD 2008		
10.00-10.15	COFFEE BREAK, THE MUSES FOYER		
10.15-13.00 10.15-12.30 12.30-13.00	OPENING SESSION (CONTINUED) AND GENERAL DEBATE, A. TRIANTI HALL - Interventions by participants - Report on the GFMD 2009 Civil Society Days		
13.00-15.00	BUFFET LUNCHEON HOSTED BY THE HELLENIC GOVERNMENT, THE MUSES FOYER		
15.00-18.00	ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS		
	ROUNDTABLE 1 ***How to make the migration – development nexus work for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)*** *Coordinator: Mr Romeo Mateo* *SESSION 1.1 (N.SKALKOTAS HALL)* ***Mainstreaming migration in development planning - Key actors, key strategies, key actions*** *Co-Chairs:* **Amb. Dr Mercourios B. Karafotias** - Greece **Mrs. Ecaterina Buracec** - Republic of Moldova *Rapporteur:* **Mr Vivekanandsingh Joysuree** - Mauritius	*ROUNDTABLE 2* ***Migrant integration, reintegration and circulation for development*** *Coordinator: Dr Irena Omelaniuk* *SESSION 2.2 (BANQUET HALL)* ***Reintegration and circular migration – effective for development ?*** *Co-Chairs:* **H.E. Mrs. Mitzi Gurgel Valente da Costa** - Brazil **Professor Augusto Manuel Correia** - Portugal *Speakers:** **Mr Michael Tetzlaff** (Mr Hans Joachim Stange) - Germany **Mr Rolando Garcia Alonso** - Mexico **Mr Anil Kumar Kokil** - Mauritius *Rapporteur:* **Ms. Ximena Botero** - Colombia ** Mr Hugo Tavares Augusto also presented on behalf of the Portuguese Co-Chair.*	*ROUNDTABLE 3* ***Policy and institutional coherence and partnerships*** *Coordinator: Dr Rabih Jeury* *SESSION 3.2 (MC 3 HALL)* ***Regional and inter-regional processes and fora*** *Co-Chairs:* **Mr Peter Hughes** - Australia **H.E. Mr Sihasak Phuangketkeow** - Thailand *Speakers:* **H.E. Mrs. Lorena Escudero** - Ecuador **Ms. Nicole Martin** - France **Dr Arifian Habibie** - Indonesia **Professor Randall Hansen** - Canada *Rapporteur:* **Mr Achsanul Habib** - Indonesia
18.00-19.30	RECEPTION HOSTED BY DEPUTY MINISTER TZAKRI, THE MUSES FOYER		

"Integrating Migration Policies into Development Strategies for the Benefit of All"

09.00-12.00	ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS (CONTINUED)		
	ROUNDTABLE 1 ***How to make the migration – development nexus work for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)*** ***Coordinator: Mr Romeo Matias*** ***SESSION 1.2 (MC 3 HALL)*** ***Engaging diasporas and migrants in development policies and programs – Their role? Their constraints?*** *Co-Chairs:* **H. E. Mr Juan Manuel Gomez Robledo** - Mexico **Mr Han-Maurits Schaapveld** - The Netherlands *Rapporteur:* **Mr Vaheh Gevorgyan** - Armenia	***ROUNDTABLE 2*** ***Migrant integration, reintegration and circulation for development*** ***Coordinator: Dr Irena Omelaniuk*** ***SESSION 2.1 (N.SKALKOTAS HALL)*** ***Inclusion, protection and acceptance of migrants in society – linking human rights and migrant empowerment for development*** *Co-Chairs:* **H.E. Mr Pablo Tettamanti** - Argentina **Mr Alex Zalami** - United Arab Emirates *Speakers:* **Ms. Nassia Ioannou** - Greece **Ms. Estrella Rodriguez** - Spain *Rapporteur:* **Mr Manuel Imson** - The Philippines	***ROUNDTABLE 3*** ***Policy and institutional coherence and partnerships*** ***Coordinator: Dr Ralph Jenny*** ***SESSION 3.1 (BANQUET HALL)*** ***Policy and institutional Coherence – Latest data and research findings*** *Co-Chairs:* **H.E. Mr Mohammed El Bernoussi** - Morocco **H.E. Mr Eduard Gnesa** - Switzerland *Rapporteur:* **Mr Timothy Green** - United Kingdom
12.00-13.30	BUFFET LUNCHEON HOSTED BY THE HELLENIC GOVERNMENT, THE MUSES FOYER		
13.30-16.30	ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS (CONTINUED)		
	SESSION 1.3 (N. SKALKOTAS HALL) ***Addressing the root causes of migration through development, specifically in light of the current global economic crisis*** *Co-Chairs:* **H.E. Mr Md Abdul Hannan** - Bangladesh **Ms. Lisa Phillips** - United Kingdom *Rapporteur:* **Mr Johan Fick** - South Africa		
14.00-16.00	SPECIAL SESSION: FUTURE OF THE FORUM (BANQUET HALL) HEADS OF DELEGATION ONLY		
16.00-17.00	COFFEE BREAK, THE MUSES FOYER		
17.00-18.00	CLOSING SESSION, A. TRIANTI HALL - REPORTS OF THE ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS *General Rapporteur for Roundtable 1* : **Ms. Elisabeth Adjei** - Ghana *General Rapporteur for Roundtable 2* : **Ms. Cecilia Romero Castillo** - Mexico *General Rapporteur for Roundtable 3* : **Ms. Eva Haagensen** - Norway *General Rapporteur for Gender Issues*: **Mr Andreas Takis** - Greece *Conclusions on the Future of the Forum* : **Mr Peter Sutherland** (Mr François Foulnat) - FINAL DISCUSSION OF THE REPORTS		
18.00-18.15	- "THE WAY FORWARD" - **H.E. Mr Juan Manuel Gomez Robledo**, Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mexico		
18.15-18.30	- CONCLUDING REMARKS BY THE GFMD 2009 CHAIR		
18.45-19.30	DEPARTURE FOR VENUE OF FAREWELL DINNER BY BUS (IN FRONT OF MEGARON MOUSIKIS)		
19.30-22.00	FAREWELL DINNER HOSTED BY DEPUTY MINISTER TZAKRI AT ALSOS NYMFON, AGIOS STEFANOS		
22.00	DEPARTURE FOR HOTELS BY BUS		

Annex 4

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ATHENS GFMD 2009

Donor	Amount	Purpose
Financial		
Countries		
Australia	USD 25,000	International Advisor fees
Belgium (through IOM)	Euro 35,000	Participation of BDPs
Denmark	DKK 750,000	Participation of LDCs
Finland	Euro 45,000	Preparation of Session 3.1
Israel	USD 5,000	Assistance with translation costs
Netherlands	Euro 100,000	Preparatory events/non-earmarked
	USD 55,000	Implementation of GFMD follow-up projects
Norway	Euro 100,000	Participation of LDCs
Spain	Euro 100,000	Contribution to Support Unit
Sweden	SEK 700,000	Participation of LDCs
Switzerland	Euro 31,250	Assistance with translation costs
UAE	USD 20,000	Implementation of GFMD follow-up project
	USD 25,000	Implementation of GFMD follow-up project
UK (DFID)	GBP 25,000	Participation of LDCs
Others		
ACP Group of Countries	Euro 200,000	Participation of ACP countries
MacArthur Foundation	USD 100,000	Participation of LDCs
Non-Financial		
Countries		
Belgium	IN KIND	International Advisor secondment
Mexico	IN KIND	Assistance with translations
Netherlands	IN KIND	International Advisor secondment
Switzerland	IN KIND	International Advisor secondment
Others		
EC	IN KIND	Provision of Interpreters
ILO	IN KIND	Provision of venue for Geneva preparatory meetings and translation assistance
IOM	IN KIND	International Advisor secondment and technical assistance

Annex 5

GFMD CIVIL SOCIETY DAYS

INTEGRATING MIGRATION POLICIES INTO DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL

PROGRAMME

2-3 November 2009
Astir Palace, Vouliagmeni Athens, Greece

Sunday, November 1st, 2009

Arrival:

Hotel Welcoming Team Onassis Foundation
LOBBY, Westin - Astir Palace
LOBBY, Arion - Astir Palace

5:00pm-8:00pm LOBBY, Westin	**Registration**
8:00pm-9.30pm SOFA BAR, Westin	**Welcome Reception-Cocktail**

Global Forum on Migration & Development

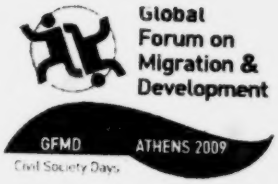
GFMD ATHENS 2009
Civil Society Days

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME DAY 1

Monday, November 2nd, 2009

8:00am-9:30am LOBBY, Westin	**Registration**
9:45am-11.30am PERGOLA, Westin	**OPENING CEREMONY** **In the presence of H.E. the President of the Hellenic Republic Dr. Karolos Papoulias** Brief Welcoming Addresses: **- Mr. Anthony S. Papadimitriou** President of the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation **- Mr. Costa Gavras** Chairperson of the Civil Society Days Interventions from Members of the Greek Government and Political Parties **- Dr. Demetrios G. Papademetriou** President of the Migration Policy Institute Presentations: **- Mr. Jim Clifton** Chairman & CEO of Gallup Inc. **- Ms. Neli Esipova** Director of Research for Global Migration & Regional Director for Gallup World Poll **Discussion** **"At the Starting Line" by Mrs. Marianna Moschou** Secretary of the Board of the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation

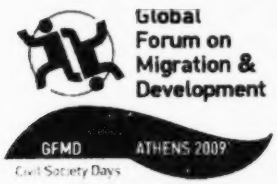
Monday, November 2nd, 2009			
	ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS		
11:30am-1.00pm ATLAS A, B COSMOS A, B, C IRIS	**ROUNDTABLE 1:** **"How to make the migration – development nexus work for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)"**		
	Session 1.1 Mainstreaming migration in development planning-Key actors, key strategies, key actions.	**Session 1.2** Engaging diasporas and migrants in development policies and programs-Their role? Their constraints?	**Session 1.3** Addressing the root causes of migration through development, specifically in light of the current global economic crisis.
1:00pm-2:30pm PERGOLA, Westin	**Lunch**		
2:45pm-4:15pm ATLAS A, B IRIS COSMOS A, B, C	**ROUNDTABLE 2:** **"Migrant integration, reintegration and circulation for development"**		
	Session 2.1 Inclusion, protection and acceptance of migrants in society-linking human rights and migrant empowerment for development.	**Session 2.2** Reintegration and circular migration-effective for development?	
4:15pm-4.45pm SOFA BAR, Westin	**Coffee Break**		



Monday, November 2nd, 2009	
4:45pm-5:45pm PERGOLA, Westin	**PLENARY** **Message from Manila** **Ms. Vicky Garchitorena** President of the Ayala Foundation **FIRST IMPRESSIONS – RT1 & RT2**
5:45pm-6:30pm	**FREE**
6:30pm	**Departure for the New Acropolis Museum**
7:30pm-10:30pm	**New Acropolis Museum, Tour and Dinner**

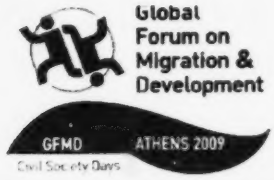
CONFERENCE PROGRAMME DAY 2

Tuesday, November 3rd, 2009		
8:30am-9.30am PERGOLA, Westin	**PLENARY** **WRAP UP RT1 & RT2: KEY POINTS**	
9:30am-11:00am ATLAS A, B IRIS COSMOS A, B, C	**ROUNDTABLE 3:** **"Policy and Institutional Coherence and Partnerships"** **Session 3.1** Policy and Institutional Coherence- Latest Data and Research Findings.	**Session 3.2** Regional and Inter-regional Processes and Fora.



Tuesday, November 3rd, 2009		
11:00am-11:30am SOFA BAR, Westin	**Coffee Break**	
11:30am-1:00pm ATLAS A, B IRIS COSMOS A, B, C	**ROUNDTABLE 4** **Session 4.1** Building Alliances: Business Engaging with other Civil Society Actors	**Session 4.2** The Future of the Forum
1:00pm-2:30pm PERGOLA, Westin	**Lunch**	
3:00pm-4:30pm PERGOLA, Westin	**PLENARY** **WRAP UP RT3 & RT4: KEY POINTS**	
4:30pm-5:45pm	**Civil Society and Government Interface Sessions**	
	Interface RT1 "How to make the migration – development nexus work for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)" ATLAS A (Westin)	**Interface RT2** "Migrant integration, reintegration and circulation for development" ATLAS B (Westin)
	Interface RT3 "Policy and Institutional Coherence and Partnerships" IRIS (Westin)	**Interface RT4** "Building Alliances: Developing a Common Agenda Among the Private Sector, Civil Society, and Policymakers" ATHENA A (Arion)

Tuesday, November 3rd, 2009	
4:30pm-5:30pm COSMOS ABC, Westin	**Human Development Report 2009 Presentation** "Overcoming Barriers: Human Mobility and Development" **Ms. Jeni Klugman** Director, United Nations Development Report **Discussion**
5:30pm-5:45pm SOFA BAR, Westin	**Coffee Break**
5:45pm-7:15pm COSMOS ABC, Westin	**CLOSING PLENARY** **- Mr. Costa Gavras** Chairperson of the Civil Society Days **- Ms. Theodora Tzakri** Deputy Minister of Interior, Decentralisation & Electronic Governance ********** **- Dr. Dilip Ratha** Senior Economist, Migration and Remittances Team, Development Prospects Group, The World Bank (Washington D.C.) **"Remittances and Development in Good and Bad Times"** **Discussion** ********** **- Sir Peter Sutherland** UN Special Representative for International Migration and Development ***"Hestia" Onassis International Prize in Immigrant Integration and Human Development Award Ceremony*** ********** **Closing Remarks** **Hand-over from Greece to Mexico**
7:15pm-8:00pm	**Free**
8:00pm-10:30pm PERGOLA, Westin	**Farewell Reception - GREEK NIGHT**



LIST OF CHAIRPERSONS & RAPPORTEURS

ROUNDTABLE 1

GENERAL RAPPORTEUR: Kathleen Newland				COORDINATOR: Antigone Lyberaki	
RT 1.1	**COSMOS B, C**	**RT 1.2**	**ATLAS A, B**	**RT 1.3**	**COSMOS A, IRIS**
CHAIRS	RAPPORTEURS	**CHAIRS**	RAPPORTEURS	**CHAIRS**	RAPPORTEURS
Khalid Koser	Jean Pierre Cassarino	William Gois	Graeme Hugo	Ana Avendano	Richard Black
Kathleen Newland	Kostis Vaitsos	Syed Sayful Haque	Laura Chappell	Don Flynn	Binod Khadria

ROUNDTABLE 2

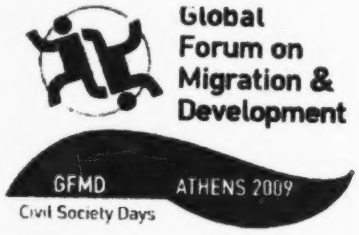
GENERAL RAPPORTEUR: Mehdi Lahlou		COORDINATOR: Anna Triandafyllidou	
RT 2.1	**COSMOS A, B, C**	**RT 2.2**	**ATLAS A, B, IRIS**
CHAIRS	RAPPORTEURS	**CHAIRS**	RAPPORTEURS
Daniel Verger	Mehdi Lahlou	Chad Bolick	Ibrahim Awad
Jin Sook Lee	Matlotleng Matlou	Tasneem Siddiqui	John Oucho
Kamalam Panicker	Jeni Klugman	Neha Misra	Charalampos Kassimis

ROUNDTABLE 3

GENERAL RAPPORTEUR: Doris Peschke		COORDINATOR: Ruby Gropas	
RT 3.1	**COSMOS A, B, C**	**RT 3.2**	**ATLAS A, B, IRIS**
CHAIRS	RAPPORTEURS	**CHAIRS**	RAPPORTEURS
Susan Martin	Doris Peschke	Rajan Irudaya Sebastian	Pariza Castaños Luis Miguel
Saskia Gent Knowles	Michael Clemens	Mario Santillo	Michele Klein Solomon
Abdoullahi Mohamoud	Dilip Ratha	Khady Sakho Niang	Chukwu Emeka Chikezie

ROUNDTABLE 4

GENERAL RAPPORTEURS: Harry Kyriazis (4.1) Martina Liebsch (4.2)		COORDINATOR: Demetrios G. Papademetriou (4.1) Gregory Maniatis (4.2)	
RT 4.1	**COSMOS A, B, C**	**RT 4.2**	**ATLAS A, B, IRIS**
CHAIRS	RAPPORTEURS	**CHAIRS**	RAPPORTEURS
Ellen Yost	Veronika Sintha Saraswati	Colin Rajah	Jennifer Brinkerhoff
Angelika Salas	Marielena Hincapié	Martina Liebsch	Catherine Tactaquin
David Arkless	Harry Kyriazis	Vicky Garchitorena	Natasha Iskander



GFMD Civil Society Days
Athens 2009

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is supported by:

Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation

Open Society Institute

Western Union Foundation

REPORT
ON THE CIVIL SOCIETY DAYS OF THE GLOBAL FORUM
ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

INTEGRATING MIGRATION POLICIES INTO DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL

ATHENS, 3 NOVEMBER 2009

A/65/499

Annex 6

Roundtable 1

How to make the migration-development nexus work for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Synthesis of sessions

1.1. Mainstreaming migration in development planning – Key actors, key strategies, key actions.

1.2. Engaging diasporas and migration in development policies and programs – Their role? Their constraints?

1.3. Addressing the root causes of migration through development, specifically in light of the current global economic crisis

Roundtable 1. Short Summary & Key recommendations for action:

Each session took place against the background of a shared conviction that migration does contribute to development (although it is not a substitute for a comprehensive development policy), that migrants should be seen as active participants in development, and that migration policy and development planning should benefit migrants as well as countries of origin and destination. The participants noted the inequality and differential benefits of development that characterize the world economy, along with violent conflict, as fundamental causes of migration, and noted that migrants' contributions alone cannot overcome either structural factors or poor governance. Participants accepted as fundamental to development the rigorous observance of migrants' human and labour rights. Many advocated for ratification and implementation of international conventions relevant to the rights of migrants, including the ILO conventions, the core human rights conventions, and, in particular, the UN Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers and their Families.

1. Take more assertive action, in collaboration with civil society organizations, to regulate and monitor recruitment practices, and enforce the applicable laws: cap permissible fees, establish as good practice that employers pay recruitment fees; establish whistle-blower protections and reporting mechanisms for abuses.

2. Extend a 'grace period' to migrants who lose their jobs as a result of the recession and with it their permission to remain in the country of destination, so that they have the opportunity to find another job. Allow migrants who return to their home countries to do so safely and with dignity.

3. Reduce the transaction costs of migration: simplify document requirements (applications for admission often run to great length and are practically impossible for a lay person to complete without a lawyer), reduce fees and simplify procedures for obtaining official documents such as passports, make information on migration procedures more easily available to reduce dependence on intermediaries; professionalizing and monitoring consular practices of visa issuance, to reduce arbitrariness and bad practices such as bribe-seeking.

4. Take strong initiatives to counter misinformation about migrants and the impact of migration that inflames public opinion against migrants.

5. Engage all ministries or departments involved in migration issues in regular intra-governmental policy discussions of migration and development (on policy formulation and implementation) – including for example, ministries of health, education, labor, social security and especially development/foreign assistance. Coordination should also work "vertically," across levels of government – national, state/provincial, and municipal. Establish regular consultations between the coordinating bodies of governments and civil society organizations (including diaspora organizations).

6. Consider simplified and transparent demand-based systems for labour admissions, with strong protec for protection of wage levels and working conditions.

7. Establish codes of conduct for ethical recruitment in a way that does not restrict freedom of moven and avoids discrimination on the grounds of national origin.

8. Incorporate protections for domestic workers into national law, and cooperate with civil society organizat to monitor and promote compliance.

9. Reduce the barriers to establishing diaspora organizations, build their capacities, and include diasp members in developing planning and implementation on a routine basis. Solicit and pay attention to voices of migrants, migrants associations and members of diaspora on issues of governance deficits development obstacles.

10. Address the loss of human resources from the health sector by investing in that sector in countrie origin, increase the supply of skilled health care personnel, and strengthen the public health syster that it can offer improved wages and working conditions to an adequate number of health care work

11. Send a clear message from the GFMD to the Copenhagen Conference on climate change that the thr to and interests of migrants and potential migrants should be high on the policy agenda of the confere

Roundtable 2

Migrant integration, reintegration and circulation for development

Synthesis of sessions

2.1. Inclusion, protection and acceptance of migrants in society; linking human rights and migrant empowerment for development

2.2. Reintegration and circulate migration – effective for development?

Roundtable 2. Short Summary & Key recommendations for action:

The sessions focused on three core sets of issues: rights, circular migration and reintegration.

RIGHTS

All migrant workers have the right to basic labour rights including non discrimination (i.e., the same treatme working conditions, and wages as comparable native workers). This protects both the rights and work conditions of migrant workers, as well as the native workers. These rights are enshrined in both UN and I conventions and treaties.

1. These conventions should be ratified and implemented and civil society can help monitor th implementation.

2. We would like to stress the following recommendations as a minimal set of conditions for both tempor and long term migrants:
   - Flexibility of stay permits: changing from short term to long term.
   - Employee portability and freedom of movement.
   - Portability of benefits (pension and insurance, health coverage, accumulation of benefits).
   - Portability of justice.
   - When out of employment having a reasonable period of time to find a new job.
   - Universal education and preventive health coverage for all.

3. Governments must understand the costs of non action can be higher than the costs of providing these services.

4. Particular attention should be paid to particularly the vulnerable status of domestic workers.

CIRCULAR MIGRATION

Circular migration has to be approached as fundamentally different from temporary migration programs and the concept of circular migration needs to be clarified in policy terms. In all cases:

5. Governments should reform visa regimes to allow for multi-entry visas and "test" programs for those who are thinking of return.

6. Employers should pay the costs of recruitment, but training and skills development or language training are public goods that governments should pay for. We do recognise that these are goods that developing countries may be unable to provide in their totality.

7. The duration of circular migration programs have to be long enough for migrants to accumulate skills and savings.

8. Circular migration programmes should not separate families for long periods of time and they should allow for benefits portability.

REINTEGRATION

9. There is a need for bilateral/multi-lateral agreements for the designation and implementation of policies for reintegration.

10. The role of local government and civil society ought to be valorised.

Roundtable 3

Policy and Institutional Coherence and Partnerships

Synthesis of sessions

3.1. Policy and institutional coherence: latest data and research findings

3.2. Regional and inter-regional processes and fora

Roundtable 3. Short Summary & Key recommendations for action:

The Roundtable discussed on the basis and conclusions of the background papers. The challenge of understanding coherence was raised as an important one: What and who needsd to be coherend for which aim? The global economic crisis has put into question some of the previous concepts of coherence, and the role of the state and the need to protect migrants and their rights need to be addressed, contrary to the criminalisation of migrants currently being observed.

Development should be understood in broad terms as in the concept of human development and also take into consideration social costs and benefits, and not merely focus on economic growth. Similarly, for policy coherence to make sense, all forms of migration need to be considered. This includes temporary, permanent and irregular migration, as well as circular and return migration, but also the need for protection of refugees and displaced persons.

The roundtable underlined the need for a solid rights framework based on international conventions. The rights of individuals and their families was seen as a potential rallying point for civil society at local, regional, national and international fora.

At the same time, it is necessary to break down silos which have been formed between migration and develop but also other relevant areas such as trade. Climate change must increasingly be taken into considerat the context of both migration and development.

There is a need to improve the evidence base, but it is also necessary to get policy makers to use ava evidence and research. Civil society organisations need to be brought into the research and policy proc and discourse in a more inclusive manner and with meaningful consultations; this is particularly releva migrant associations and diaspora organisations that have to find ways to lobby governments in a feasib principled manner. There is thus a need for transparency regarding available data and research, and the el of available data.

Recommendations:

1. A link between migration profiles and poverty reduction strategies could serve as a useful instrum link broader definitions and identify needs for programmes and cooperation.

2. Analyses of remittances and their impact need to be more robust. The analysis should not be limite to topline numbers, but should also consider the benefits and costs for individuals and their familie communities. Here, as in other topics of the research agenda, quantitative and qualitative methodol ought to complement each other to understand both the scope and scale, as well as the processes.

3. Research areas that would be useful to prioritise include: the migration-development nexus areas ar respective impact on social and human costs; measuring the qualifications of skilled workers; interdiscip research which involves other actors; the effect on children of migration. The allocation of fundi governments for migration control versus migration development areas, as well as the impact of the fu ought to be researched better. There is a need for research on the impact of migration on receiving cou in a more nuanced way, and it is necessary to encourage sharing of research findings with mig themselves. The 2010 census/surveys should include migration specific issues, it was felt that this oppor should not be missed.

4. As the health sector is significant for development and migration, in countries of origin and destin and as information from diaspora organisations is available, this sector may be particularly highlig as a pilot research area through which to understand the links between migration and consequenc societies; the specificities of the distinction between high and low skill, high and low paid migratio how skills are used (including recognition of qualifications, etc); as well as the issue of 'de-skilling.'

5. A clearing house for sharing available data and research was seen as appropriate - which could be st on the basis of bilateral pilot agreements between countries.

6. Capacity building and training, preferrably in cooperation between government officials and civil so on issues of human rights, diversity, understanding migration and development priorities was rega as important. It was regarded as desirable to develop tripartite structures as they exist in the ILO other UN bodies to come to achieve results, however, they would need to include migrants and dia associations. This model would be useful and can be started at all levels, local, national, regional a as global. It is necessary to build capacity within civil society (CS) and migrants' and diaspora organisa to be able to engage in policy formulation. The need to develop concepts concerning the integrati return migrants in countries of origin was raised.

7. Time, human and financial resources for civil society engagement as well as for research, an governmental cooperation need to be invested to achieve necessary improvements for the benefit countries of origin, transit and destination, but first and foremost, for migrants and their families.

Roundtable 4

Synthesis of sessions

4.1. Building Alliances: Business

4.2. The Future of the Forum

Roundtable 4. Short Summary & Key recommendations for action:

The first session of this roundtable focused on **Building Alliances: Business Engaging with other Civil Society** Actors and concluded that the status quo is not working. Alliances among civil society, business and government are necessary in order to:

1. Improve the regulatory environment
   a. We already have a set of ILO treaties and conventions (97, 143,181) Governments are urged to ratify and enforce them.
   b. We need to seek greater transparency and clarity
      i. There needs to be clear information about the treaties and conventions impacting migration that exist on a bilateral level. Civil society needs to be aware of these agreements in order to properly advise migrant workers.
      ii. National immigration laws and regulations should be easy to understand, the number of categories should be limited, and changes should be made only when necessary.
      iii. Immigration procedures should be straightforward and processing should be quick, consistent and inexpensive.

2. Protect migrant workers by
   a. Granting all workers human rights and labour rights regardless of their migration status.
   b. Informing all parties involved of their responsibilities.
   c. Holding all employers to the same standards for worker protections (migrants can sometimes exploit other migrants).
   d. Establishing cooperation between civil society and government and seeking better data (how many migrants, who are they?)
   e. Communicating clear, coherent and trustworthy information about issues of importance to migrants including healthcare and legal advice.
      i. Choose the most appropriate manner according to context and literacy levels of migrants. This could be a readily-accessible, easy to use brochure or pamphlet "charter of migrant rights."
      ii. As an example, in Los Angeles NGOs, government officials in charge of labour matters, churches, labour unions, regional chambers of commerce and Mexican consular officers work together to inform migrant workers about their rights.

3. Improve the image of migrants by communicating the real facts
   a. Migrants should be seen as business actors and entrepreneurs that shape a new economy, not just as "migrant workers".
   b. Business should use its marketing expertise to make the business case for migrant workers and to help improve the public perception of immigrants.
   c. Studies should be done and publicized about the favourable impact of immigrants on an economy.

4. Share best practices across all sectors.
   a. A virtual forum or platform should be created to share what works well and what does not work well.
   b. Business and other members of civil society should have regular meetings.

The second session that was held in parallel explored the **Future of the Forum** and critically evaluat concentrating on four key issues:

- Civil society has its own mission, but it is not disconnected to the Government Forum.
- Civil society calls for more accountability on the Government Forum recommendations.
- Civil society looks at its own accountability.
- The CSDs of the Global Forum are a unique opportunity to dialogue at global level. This however, has t grounded on democratic and transparent processes and structures in order to have more impact, imp learning and focus.

In light of the above, the following recommendations were put forward:

1. Regarding the Core Mission of the CSD:
   a. The CSD priority agenda should aim at influencing governments.
   b. The CSD should work on its own issues and learn from each other based on our own agenda.
   c. It must focus on migration *and* development, while always maintaining a human rights based appro
2. How do we measure impact of CSD on GFMD?
   a. Monitoring mechanism: There was a consensus to have a transparent monitoring process about impact of the CSD on GFMD, the degree of formality, and the proposed mechanisms requested va from a more formal and binding mechanism to a more informal accountability.
   b. At minimum, at the beginning of the CSD, a report on behalf of the Governments should be presen Reciprocity of reporting should be encouraged.
   c. Better coordination is encouraged with existing processes - e.g. ILO and Human Rights Cou reviewing and monitoring processes on ratified agreements (UNDESA).
   d. The assessment of diaspora organizations should be sought and more visibility should be given to t throughout the whole process.
3. How can Civil Society ensure that the outcomes and policy relevant recommendations it puts forwarc taken seriously by governments and acted upon?
   The following points are therefore crucial:
   a. More focused recommendations are needed: This implies that themes must also be more focused
   b. Composition of, representation and expertise in the CSD is crucial
   c. CSD delegates should be informed in advance on who are the governmental participants in the GF
   d. An important outcome of CSD are best practices to make recommendations more specific and prac
   e. Delegates to the CSD have a formal responsibility to reach out to broader CS constituency to cap views from a broad range of civil society actors.
4. What kind of processes, structures and principles should be put into place for a more successful GFMD/C
   On process
   a. The process leading to the CSD should be continuous, transparent and democratic (look at other established UN mechanisms).
   b. CSD should be informed by and based on preliminary national and regional or thematic consultati whether existing or newly built. Governments could create space for these.
   c. These consultations should incorporate and accurately reflect CS priorities and contribute to r agenda at the global level.
   d. National networks and alliances should be built which focus on the issues beyond "banners". (processes of CS in the Philippines before the GFMD/CSD may serve as an example.)

Structure for the CS's institutional memory and leadership of the process

   a. There was consensus that continuity needs to be ensured by a sort "body or structure" led by civil soc Various models were discussed which ranged from the extension of the IAC mandate, an integr Steering Group (IAC and host foundations), an international consortium of CS actors to a CS lia unit accompanied by a CS online portal which encourages exchange and dialogue and maintai database of all involved actors.

Other issues

a. CSD/GFMD should these be twinning or separate/events? No consensus was reached, but if twinning arrangements are kept, then the same venue or area and a full one day of dialogue between governments and CS is encouraged.
b. A link with the Parallel event (PGA) should be maintained.
c. A balanced composition of participants from the different sectors of civil society must be considered, including a strong representations of migrants organisations.
d. No over-structuring is encouraged – the CSD should give some open space for networking and learning.

Athens, 5 November 2009
CSD Athens 2009

10-57775

LIST OF CHAIRPERSONS, RAPPORTEURS AND COORDINATORS

ROUNDTABLE 1

GENERAL RAPPORTEUR:
Kathleen Newland

CHAIRS
Khalid Koser
William Gois
Ana Avendano
Kathleen Newland
Syed Saiful Haque
Don Flynn

COORDINATOR:
Antigone Lyberaki

RAPPORTEURS
Jean Pierre Cassarino
Graeme Hugo
Richard Black
Kostis Vaitsos
Laura Chappell
Binod Khadria

ROUNDTABLE 2

GENERAL RAPPORTEUR:
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John Oucho
Joni Klugman
Charalampos Kassimis

ROUNDTABLE 3

GENERAL RAPPORTEUR:
Doris Peschke

CHAIRS
Susan Martin
Rajan Irudaya Sebastian
Saskia Oent Knowles
Mario Santillo
Abdoullahi Mohammoud
Khady Sakho Niang

COORDINATOR:
Ruby Gropas

RAPPORTEURS
Doris Peschke
Pariza Casta_on Luis Miguel
Michael Clemens
Michele Klein Solomon
Dilip Ratha
Chukwu Emeka Chikezie

ROUNDTABLE 4

GENERAL RAPPORTEUR:
Martina Liebsch

CHAIRS
Ellen Yost
Colin Rajah
Angelika Salas
Martina Liebsch
David Arkless
Vicky Garchitorena

COORDINATOR:
Demetrios G. Papademetriou
Gregory Maniatis

RAPPORTEURS
Veronika Sintha Saraswati
Jennifer Brinkerhoff
Marielena Hincapié
Catherine Tactaquin
Harry Kyriazis
Natasha Iskander

Annex 7

THIRD GLOBAL FORUM ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT ATHENS / 4-5 NOVEMBER

CREDITS

A special note of appreciation is extended to the following:

- The GFMD Athens 2009 Taskforce
  - Head: Ambassador Anastase Scopelitis
  - Scientific Advisors: Ms. Chryssanthi Protogerou, Dr George Mavrommatis, Ms. Dimitra Mimikopoulou, Mr Manos Skoulas, Mrs Katerina Kontouli, Mrs Athanassia Ioannou, Mrs Ourania Stavropoulou
  - Organization: Project Leader-Ms. Angeliki Iosifidou, Team: Mrs Dimitra Bagetakou, Ms. Valia Dimaraki, Mr Stelios Efthimiou, Ms. Alexandra Fytili, Mrs Ioanna Karyanou, Ms. Stella Samartzi, Mr Sotiris Tzannatos, Ms. Christina Vassala-Kokkinaki
  - International Advisors: Ambassador Régine De Clercq, Mr François Fouinat, Dr Rolph Kurt Jenny, Mr Romeo Matsas, Mr Albert Moses, Dr Irena Omelaniuk.
- The GFMD Support Unit
- The Greek Ministries of: Interior, Decentralization and E-Governance (esp. the General Directorate for Migration Policy and Social Integration); Foreign Affairs (esp. the G4 Directorate); Infrastructure, Transport and Networks; Labour and Social Security; Health and Social Solidarity; Justice, Transparency and Human Rights; Citizen Protection; Culture and Tourism
- The General Secretariats for Communication; Gender Equality; Information
- The Permanent Missions of Greece in Brussels, Geneva and New York
- The Embassies of Greece
- The Embassies of Belgium and Mexico in Athens
- The Permanent Mission of Mexico in Geneva
- The Institute of Migration Policy, Athens
- The National Tourism Organization of Greece
- The Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation
- The Municipality of Athens
- The Megaron Athens International Conference Center